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14 March 1984

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AUSTRALIA

NEW FACTION WITHIN LABOR PARTY TO BE FORMED

Opposition 'Suggestions' Denied

BK170729 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Organizers of a new center-left faction within the Labor Party say their aim is to project better the views of ordinary party members without fear of retribution from either the left or right wings. They say a meeting to form the faction, scheduled to be held in Adelaide on Sunday, is expected to attract up to 12 government ministers and as many as 40 Labor members of Federal Parliament.

One organizer, the South Australian Labor Party secretary, Mr (Chris Short), denied opposition suggestions that the move was against the prime minister, Mr Hawke. He also rejected the idea that it would be an attempt to form a new power base for Mr Bill Hayden, the former Labor leader and current foreign affairs minister.

Mr Hayden confirmed his support for the new faction, saying that the center left needed organizing in order to develop policy views and perhaps play a more active, integrated role in the Labor Party.

The federal opposition leader, Mr Peacock, said the new group would set minister against minister and thus defy the basic principle of government that ministers should speak with one voice. He said the new group was undoubtedly aimed at pressuring Mr Hawke, not just personally but on policy issues and particularly on the introduction of capital gains tax. Mr Hawke himself dismissed Mr Peacock's claims as pathetic. He would make no comment on the new faction.

Hayden, Young, Others Attend

BK190932 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] A meeting in Adelaide attended by 18 federal Labor members of parliament and party officials has formally decided to set up a new center-left group at all levels of the party. Among those at the meeting

were the foreign minister, Mr Hayden, the special minister of state, Mr Young, the resources minister, Senator Walsh, and the health minister, Dr Blewett.

The new center-left faction says it wants to concentrate on policies and ideas for reform. Organizers say the center-left wants to give the party long-term stability and reduce the influence and rivalry between the left wing and the right wing.

The group has emphasized its loyalty to the prime minister, Mr Hawke.

CSO: 4200/522

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

EMBASSY IN BEIRUT EVACUATED--Canberra, 11 Feb (AFP)--Australian Embassy staff in Beirut have been safely evacuated from Lebanon by British military helicopters, Foreign Minister Bill Hayden announced late last night. Mr Hayden said in a statement that two earlier attempts to evacuate the staff had failed. Rocket and gunfire in the harbour area had made a sea evacuation unacceptably hazardous. Meanwhile a road exit was ruled out because of failure to negotiate a safe passage with all factions in position along the route and the disclosure that key parts of the road had been mined. The five Australian staff members are now in Cyprus. [Text] [BK110318 Hong Kong AFP in English 0307 GMT 11 Feb 84]

HAYDEN LEAVES FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA--The foreign minister, Mr Hayden, has left Australia for a 5-day visit to Southeast Asia. His first stop will be the oil-rich sultanate of Brunei for its independence celebrations, which start tomorrow. He will fly to Manila on Friday for talks with senior Filipino officials on bilateral and regional issues. Before leaving Canberra today, Mr Hayden said he would also be bringing up the matter of an Australian priest, Father Brian Gore, who is being charged with murder. He pointed out that his government wanted to see the processes of justice proceed properly no matter how different the system might be in the Philippines. Coinciding with Mr Hayden's departure, the Philippines Embassy in Canberra released a 2-page statement replying to recent Australian media reports concerning Father Gore's trial. The statement said there were good reasons for the delay and appealed to the Australian media to show restraint [words indistinct]. [Text] [BK210930 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Feb 84]

HAWKE RETURNS FROM ASIAN TOUR--The Australian prime minister, Mr Hawke, has arrived back in Canberra after a busy 18-day tour of Asia. Before leaving Kuala Lumpur for home today, Mr Hawke had talks with the Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir, which officials later described as [words indistinct]. In his Asian tour Mr Hawke visited Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, and China, as well as Singapore and Malaysia. [Excerpts] [BK151249 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 15 Feb 84]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO CHINA--The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Hayden, today announced the appointment of Mr Dennis Argall as Australia's next ambassador to China. He succeeds Mr Hugh Dunn, who has been ambassador in Beijing since April 1980. [Excerpt] [BK161549 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Feb 84]

FOOD AID TO REFUGEES--Australia is to provide food aid worth nearly \$10 million [Australian dollars] for use in refugee assistance program. The money is being made available through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Poul Hartling, who is in Australia for talks with the foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden. The Australian food aid will go to refugees in Thailand, Afghan refugees in Pakistan, and people in Kampuchea and Somalia. The grain, milk powder, and high-protein biscuits are part of the food aid program run by the Australian Development Assistance Bureau. [Text] [BK161549 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Feb 84]

CSO: 4200/522

BURMA

BRIEFS

GUERRILLA ATTACKS IN MONG MIT, MOGOK--Combat news: On 29 January, an enemy military vehicle was destroyed during a guerrilla attack against the mercenary 3d Infantry Regiment in Mong Mit-Mogok area. On 30 January, a small people's army unit blew up an enemy bulldozer near (Thingan), located east of (Twinge). On 7 and 8 February, a small people's army unit conducted guerrilla attacks against the mercenary 3d Infantry Regiment and 10th Infantry Regiment around (Lemauktongyi) in Mong Mit area. On 9 February, guerrilla attacks were launched against the 10th Infantry Regiment in (Yegon) and the 3d Infantry Regiment in (Nanyan). On 10 February, a guerrilla attack was launched against the 10th Infantry Regiment in (Yegon). As a result of all these guerrilla actions between 7 and 10 February, two enemy soldiers from the mercenary 10th Infantry Regiment were killed and seven others were wounded. On 12 February, six enemy soldiers were killed and two were wounded when a small people's army unit ambushed the 10th Infantry Regiment near (Konyu). [Text] [BK251307 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese 1200 GMT 25 Feb 84]

CSO: 4211/18

ECONOMIST ANTICIPATES SOME IMPROVEMENT IN 1984

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Dec 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] While there are major challenges in the economic sector that have to be faced during the next decade, opportunities still exist and Indonesia must take advantage of them.

This view was expressed by Prof Dr Soemitro Djojohadikoesoemo, a leading economist, on Thursday [1 December] at the YKTI building in a working paper presented at the Eighth National Discussion of the Relationship between Land Use and Regional Development Planning.

The professor, who said that he was speaking as an observer and was presenting his personal opinions, noted that compared to the majority of industrialized and developing countries, Indonesia was fortunate in being able to maintain economic stability and that it could do so because it had adequate reserves.

He said that no matter how much the public and government officials complain, when Indonesia is compared with most other countries it must be recognized that we are achieving stability and that we have the resistance needed to face our problems. "I am not saying this out of a sense of loyalty to the Indonesian culture and identity, for this is the result of what the Javanese call the 'science of serendipity.' Nor am I affected by the disorder that is attacking our intellectuals, who are frustrated and avoid reality by thinking about the old times and sinking into nostalgia," he said.

The problem is one of identifying Indonesia's future opportunities, and we must not be pessimistic but must look at the realities of the situation, he said.

Zero Growth

Professor Soemitro said that we must realize that the developments of the last 2 years (1982 and 1983) will have a significant influence on the equilibrium or configuration of the conditions we will face in the future. The developments of the last 2 years reflect a fundamental restructuring that is occurring not only in Indonesia but throughout the world, he said.

He said that stagnation reached a peak in 1982 and 1983 and that these 2 years were the most damaging and oppressive to the New Order since the launching of the First 5-Year Plan (Pelita I).

The economy, income and employment were characterized not just by stagnation, but, when compared with conditions in preceding years, by regression.

The professor said that the economic growth rate reached 10 percent in 1980 and that this was the peak year for progress since Pelita I. He noted that the chief of state had said in a speech delivered on 16 August 1983 that the economic growth rate, or the rate of production of goods and services, had not exceeded 2.2 percent in 1982 and would not exceed that figure in 1983.

Prof Soemitro, who has held the posts of minister of commerce and minister of research and technology in previous cabinets, said that there has been an 80 percent decline in the economic growth rate in the last 2 to 3 years. The decline has been rapid and the rate of regression high, he said.

The professor said that the economic growth rate is measured against the actual conditions that existed in 1973, that is, 1973 prices are used as the base prices. If economic growth was calculated using 1980 as the base year, then there would be zero economic growth in 1982 and 1983. "Zero growth, this is the reality of our situation," he said.

Prologue

Prof Soemitro, reading from his paper "Economic Change in Indonesia during the Next Decade," said that the conditions experienced in 1982 and 1983 were a prologue and that they also marked a trend that had begun in 1979. "But since the whole world was still doing as it pleased and we were still adhering to the science of serendipity, we did not pay much attention to this trend."

He said that during the 1979-1981 period there was an 8 percent decline in Indonesia's exports, and that this meant that our ability to import goods also declined.

He said that in 1981 he had warned that there would be a 30 percent decline in nonoil exports, but no one had believed his warning.

Oil exports reached a peak in 1980 and then fell off, and in 1983 the price of oil dropped from \$34 to \$29 a barrel.

The professor said this decline has had a widespread influence and, whether we like it or not, has reduced state revenues and the ability of the government to carry out development projects and make investments.

He said that the decline in exports (oil and nonoil) and the increase in the price of industrial imports has begun to restrict Indonesia's ability to import, noting that there are some types of capital goods, semiprocessed goods, feedstock and consumer goods that Indonesia must import.

Then the length of the dry season has caused the production and income of farmers to decline, and the depressed economic situation has caused large amounts of dollar funds to be moved out of the country to find a safe haven abroad, he said.

Geniuses

Prof Soemitro also commented on the series of policies adopted by the government in 1982 and 1983. He said that the cutbacks in the national budget had been keenly felt by government employees and the public; that the devaluation of the rupiah against the U.S. dollar had been carried out to make it more expensive to purchase dollars and to improve the position of the government's budget, as a large part of budget revenues are in the form of dollars; and that the banking policy of 1 June 1983 was the most fundamental reform in the field of monetary institutions and banking in more than 10 years.

He also mentioned the rescheduling of some 125 development projects valued at \$10 to \$11 billion. Commenting on these policies he said, "Often these measures go unrecognized, but when they are carried out at the right time we become geniuses. When we are in a tight spot they can be brilliant, so in a tight spot they are great too. France, Germany, Britain and the United States all dared to do these things."

The professor said that he thought the most vital measure being carried out was the effort to simplify the many regulations and directives that have the effect of stifling economic activity.

With regard to the situation in 1983, he said that there would have been a balance of payments deficit of \$11 billion if the development projects had not been rescheduled. The deficit was held to \$6.4 billion as a result of the rescheduling, and this figure is the government's target at the present time.

Prof Soemitro said that he estimated that the balance of payments deficit was running between \$5 and \$7 billion but that it could be reduced to only \$600 million with loans from the IGGI group and the investment of foreign capital.

Regarding the prospects for 1984, the professor implied that conditions will improve. He noted that Bank Indonesia holds sufficient foreign exchange reserves to finance 4 months of imports, while the minimum margin of safety is 3 months. Also, there are enough foreign exchange reserves in the whole banking system to finance 7 to 8 months of imports. "So actually our rupiah is strong," he said.

Responding to the view that the rupiah has weakened because the exchange rate against the U.S. dollar is now 980 to 1, the professor said, "I am used to this. The rupiah is down in value against the dollar, but this is not because the rupiah has gotten weaker but because the dollar is getting stronger everywhere."

He cautioned against giving credence to rumors that the rupiah would be devalued again before too long, saying that persons who held this view could not think straight or were promoting certain interests.

If the exchange value of the rupiah is raised following an increase in the exchange value of the U.S. dollar it will be because it is "a matter of prestige," he said. He added that Indonesian goods would not sell abroad because they would not be competitive with the products of other countries.

The professor anticipates a slight increase in domestic production because he estimates that the price of oil can be held at \$29 a barrel. He estimates that agricultural production will improve and that there will be an improvement in the prices of agricultural exports because of the resurgence of the world economy.

Professor Soemitro said that if there was zero economic growth in Indonesia in 1982 and 1983, then there can be a 3 to 4 percent growth rate in 1984 if the economic policies that have been established are consistently implemented.

And if it is estimated that the inflation rate will be 12 to 14 percent this year, then the rate can be reduced to 10 to 12 percent in 1984.

Noting that an average growth rate of 5 percent a year has been targeted for Pelita IV, the professor said that this could cause some problems after 1984. If the growth rate is only 3 to 4 percent in the first year of Pelita IV, it will have to exceed 5 percent in 1986 and 1987.

Preparations must be begun now to meet this problem through the application of consistent economic policies, he said.

External factors, such as the existence or absence of hostilities in various parts of the world, will also influence conditions after 1984. On the domestic scene, Professor Soemitro feels that it is necessary to build a number of industrial projects in various locations from Aceh to Balikpapan. He also said that it was necessary to develop agro-industry, aquatic industry and forest industry.

He also mentioned the importance of creating more jobs so as to reduce the average number of dependents per employed worker from four to three persons.

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CSO: 4213/111

THAI PAPER ON INDONESIA GROUP ADDRESS TO SEMINAR

BK270315 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 27 Feb 84 pp 1,2

[By NATION Regional Desk]

[Excerpts] A think tank of the Indonesian Armed Forces proposed in Hanoi over the weekend that the Khmer Rouge should be excluded from an "internationally credible" election to be held after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops out of Kampuchea. The director of the organization also said ASEAN should accept the latest Vietnamese proposal of a modified regional talks as an "initial" and "most feasible" step towards a political settlement of Kampuchea.

The ideas were addressed as part of a package solution proposed by Yusuf Wanandi, director of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), believed to be a think tank of Indonesian Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Gen Benni Murdani. Wanandi presented the ideas in a 2-day seminar jointly organized in Hanoi by CSIS and Vietnam's Institute of International Affairs.

Wanandi told the seminar that a meeting between Vietnam-Laos and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)--known as the Five-Plus-Two formula already rejected by Thailand--could be a forum for ASEAN and Vietnam to discuss a political settlement of the Kampuchean conflict.

He also said the Five-Plus-Two talks would be an initial step towards an "ultimate involvement" of Beijing, Moscow, the United States and even Japan, supported by countries which are directly or indirectly involved in the conflict, in a political settlement of the issue. The involvement by these countries cannot be avoided if a realistic solution is to be found, he said.

The CSIS director also suggested that "certain Kampuchean factions" could be included in the proposed dialogues at a later stage. He did not name the factions, but from the context of his presentation, it is obvious that the Khmer Rouge, a party in the tripartite resistance coalition government headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, will not be among the factions.

CSO: 4200/551

DIFFICULT TO RAISE NONOIL EXPORTS TO 1980 LEVEL

Development of Japanese Market

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 2 Dec 83 p 10

[Text] Minister of Commerce Rachmat Saleh has told reporters that the restoration of revenues from nonoil exports to the level reached in 1980 will continue to be a difficult task during the Fourth 5-Year Plan (Pelita IV). The minister spoke with reporters on Thursday [1 December] in Jakarta [following a meeting with a Japanese trade delegation]. He said that the struggle to achieve the 1980 level was a difficult task that required optimism and a desire to help expand the market for Indonesia's nonoil commodities to various world markets. He added that he hoped that Indonesian businessmen would be serious in their efforts to develop trade between Indonesia and Japan.

In 1980 Indonesia's nonoil exports were valued at \$9,050.1 million and accounted for 41 percent of the total value of national exports. The total value of exports was \$21,908.9 million. Member states of the European Economic Community and the United States are the primary markets for our nonoil exports.

The minister said that revenues from nonoil exports had gone over the \$9 billion mark in 1980 because of the strong support provided by log exports. Attention will have to be given to finding other commodities that can replace logs on the export market and the export of finished wood products and other commodities will have to be increased, he said.

The Japanese trade delegation to the fourth meeting of the ASEAN-Japan Economic Commission visited the minister on Thursday to advise him that the Japanese desire to help Indonesian businessmen market oil and nonoil exports on various markets, including the Japanese market. Indonesian products are now oriented toward markets in the European Economic Community and the United States.

In order to enter the Japanese market it will be necessary to modify the design and dimensions of products to meet the desires of local consumers. For example, the design and dimensions of plywood are intended to meet the needs of European and American markets and are less suitable for the needs of Japanese consumers. Thorough preparations will have to be made to handle these matters.

The meeting between the delegation from the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Minister Rachmat Saleh was the second such meeting to be held in November and December of this year. The delegation was accompanied by the Japanese ambassador to Indonesia.

Minister of Commerce Optimistic

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Dec 83 p 12

[Text] Minister of Commerce Rachmat Saleh is optimistic that the position of Indonesia's nonoil exports will improve over the next 1 to 2 years. The improvement of the international economy provides us with hope, and all that remains is that every person who is involved in the handling of exports must have the desire to work hard, he said.

The minister spoke with reporters in Jakarta on Thursday after receiving a delegation of Japanese businessmen that has come here to attend the fourth meeting of the ASEAN-Japan Economic Commission. "I think that the prospects for our nonoil exports will be pretty good over the next 1 to 2 years. We must be optimistic and try to surpass as much as possible the results we have already achieved," he said.

He said that the United States and other countries are beginning to recover and that the effects of this recovery are being felt by Indonesia, which is increasing its nonoil exports to the United States. Japan also is beginning to recover and signs of recovery are becoming evident in Europe, he said.

He recognized that there are some circles in the United States who feel that the present recovery is superficial, but he also noted that there are many other people who do not take as gloomy a view of the situation. "I say that on the basis of present conditions we can achieve more in the future than we did last year," he added.

When asked about nonoil export targets for next year and the rest of Pelita IV, the minister said that it would not be prudent for him to mention any figures. "The important thing is that we try, we work, only that. If we are pessimistic before we have done anything then we surely will not achieve anything," he said.

And when asked about the results that will be achieved next year as compared with the results achieved in 1980, he said that it was difficult to use 1980 as a criterion because Indonesia's nonoil exports reached a peak of nearly \$6 billion [sic] in that year.

He noted that at that time log exports made up a large part of the value of nonoil exports and that logs can no longer be exported. Log exports are being replaced by exports of plywood, sawn timbers and other products. "All of the plywood factories are not yet completed, and some of those that have been completed are only in the initial stages of production," he said.

The minister indicated that the position that has been held by log exports could be gradually compensated for during Pelita IV, but he did not say how many years this would take.

The position of other commodities is expected to be upgraded, and the agricultural sector can still be relied on in the interim period. "If we look at the investments that have been made, then I think that the capacity of our factories to meet the demand for exports will not pose a problem. And the agricultural sector can continue to be relied on," he said.

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CSO: 4213/111

FEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL GRADUATES

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Dec 83 p 6

[Text] According to Drs H.A. Ludjito, employment opportunities in the field of religious affairs are very limited and persons who hold positions in this field have little mobility. Consequently, graduates of religious schools are only assigned to positions and occupy social strata that provide them with less than favorable prospects.

Drs Ludjito, the head of the Religious Affairs Research and Development Board of the Department of Religious Affairs, made these comments at Hotel Sabang in Jakarta on Wednesday [30 November] while addressing the Seminar on Religious Education and Job Opportunities. The seminar was presented by the Religious Affairs Research and Development Board.

During the discussion of a working paper titled "Religious Education and Job Opportunities," Dr Zamakhsyari Dhofir said that graduates of religious schools are in an unfavorable position because it is national policy to assign these graduates only to jobs that involve the handling of religious affairs.

He said that many graduates of religious schools have the knowledge and skills that qualify them for employment by government agencies other than the Department of Religious Affairs, but they are not hired by other agencies simply because they are graduates of religious schools. "This is very ironic, for there are a very large number of religious school graduates and they can not all be taken in by the Department of Religious Affairs," he said.

Less Than Adequate

Drs Julian Luthan, MA, the head of public relations for the Department of Manpower, takes a positive view of the present development of religious schools. It is evident that there is a trend among religious schools to teach nonreligious subjects in addition to their regular curricula, however, it must be recognized that the capacity of the religious schools is less than adequate to meet the needs of national development, he said.

He recommends that the curricula of the religious schools be adapted to meet the needs of national development and the increasing diversity of job opportunities, and that the schools cooperate with government agencies to obtain

assistance in managing their skills training programs and in selecting occupations from among those available.

Drs Soetjipto Wirosardjono, MSc, said that he is optimistic about the possibility of developing employment opportunities for religious school graduates even though the schools still have many deficiencies. Noting that religious education emphasizes social solidarity, solidarity with one's fellow men, he said that one of the motives of religious education is to develop self-reliant individuals and that it was hoped that this would also give the graduates the ability to create their own jobs or go into business for themselves.

Three working papers were presented during the seminar, which lasted for 1 day. It was attended by personnel from the Department of Religious Affairs, the Department of Manpower, the State Islamic Institute in Jakarta, the Central Bureau of Statistics, and other individuals.

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CSO: 4213/111

FRETILIN CLAIMS PRISONERS IN EAST TIMOR PRISON TORTURED

Melbourne THE AGE in English 6 Feb 84 p 3

[Text]

The commandant of East Timor's Atauro Island prison tortured prisoners who handed a message to visiting Portuguese journalists last year, according to a letter just received in Australia from Fretilin.

The letter, signed by the Fretilin leader on East Timor, Jose Gusmao Xanana, and dated 25 July 1983, names Alberto da Conceicao and Jaime Segueira as inmates of Atauro Island who were tortured after communicating with journalists on 15 February, 1983. It says they and two others had not been released from Atauro Island after being beaten.

The letter, addressed to the president of the Australia-East Timor Association, Mr George Preston, is believed to be the first direct written communication from the Fretilin leader to an Australian organisation.

Written just before the start of the present Indonesian offensive in East Timor, the letter forecasts the "arrival of re-inforcements of 10 more battalions". (A later cod-

ed message from Fretilin, dated 21 December and arriving in Lisbon on 27 January, described military operations by 12,000 Indonesian troops in East Timor.)

The four-page letter, written on airmail paper, was smuggled out of Timor and sent to Lisbon before being sent to Melbourne. It refers to hunger, persecution, and disappearances. "Even in late last May, Joao Soriano, who was in Jakarta, was called to Dili and brutally beaten and menaced," the letter says.

Mr Xanana appeals to the Australian Government for greater involvement in the search for a "just and correct solution to the problem of East Timor".

The letter to the association, whose members include the Waterside Workers Federation, the Tramways Union and the Miscellaneous Workers Union, may have been prompted by the visit of an Australian Parliamentary delegation to East Timor at the time it was written.

The delegation, headed by Mr Bill Morrison (Labor, NSW), found there was no evidence of

human rights violations in East Timor. A left-wing Labor senator, Senator McIntosh, dissented from the delegations's report.

Senator McIntosh said the delegation had ignored evidence that scores of Timorese had been captured and tortured by Indonesians.

Mr Preston said the association was delighted to have received a personal communication from the Fretilin leader. He said he wanted to draw to the Australian Government's attention Mr. Xanana's plea for greater Australian involvement in the search for a peaceful solution in East Timor.

He said Fretilin communications with the outside world during the present offensive had been greatly hampered by their need to protect remaining channels of communication, which were of long-term importance to Fretilin.

In his letter, Mr Xanan approves proposals put forward by Mr Preston for a solution to the struggle in East Timor. Mr Preston said he believed this was a reference to a talk he gave on Radio Australia, which Fretilin monitors from their mountain camps.

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

1983 RICE CROP FIGURES--Jakarta, Jan 23--Indonesia's 1983 rice crop is expected to reach 23.4 million tons, well above the previous forecast of 22.5 million tons, a National Planning Board spokesman said. Provisional figures show the 1982 rice crop totalled 23.1 million tons. Over the whole third five-year plan ending on Mar 31, the rice crop is expected to increase by 6.1 percent because of higher per hectare yield. Because of greater use of fertiliser and insecticides, per hectare yield has grown by 7 percent a year during the third five-year plan, reaching 2.57 tons compared to 1.96 tons at the end of the second five-year plan. The Sumatran rice crop has been badly hit by the return of the wereng pest, which had not caused problems for the last two years following the introduction of new resistant strains of rice. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 24 Jan 84 p 5]

CSO: 4200/552

PRK MEDICAL SYSTEM DESCRIBED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by Pharmacist Nguyen Duy Cuong: "Kampuchea's New Public Health Undertaking"]

[Text] Immediately after Kampuchea was liberated, acting in accordance with the request of the Kampuchean revolutionary administration and carrying out a directive of our government, Vietnam's public health sector, from the central level to the provincial level, sent thousands of cadres, doctors, pharmacists, medical aides, nurses, midwives, etc., to help the Kampuchean people.

The situation at that time was very tragic. The Pol Pot regime had destroyed practically all of the existing public health installations. Most of the public health cadres, especially the doctors and pharmacists, had been killed. The people were in extremely poor health.

Even so, Kampuchea recovered rapidly. Within only a few months a Kampuchean public health apparatus was set up. The Kampuchean Ministry of Public Health and the medical services of 20 provinces were organized and bore the burden of protecting the people's health. Like plants competing with one another in sending out roots at the beginning of spring, in Phnom Penh, in the provincial and district capitals, and in the hamlets, public health installations, hospitals, clinics, public health stations, etc., reappeared in their old buildings, and many new units have been built. Every month, every week, and even every day the statistics of the Kampuchean Ministry of Public Health must be revised upward so that they can reflect the actual situation.

After only a year the Phnom Penh Medical College and Pharmacy College were revived with new life and have been merged to form the Medical-Pharmacy College. Two years later it was renamed the Phnom Penh Medical-Pharmacy College. When the old students were sought out to resume their studies it was discovered that more than two-thirds were no longer alive. At the same time, a medical secondary school and a midwifery school were set up and more and more new cadres were trained to care for the health of a people being reborn. The other activities of the public health sector have also developed.

Within 3 years the network had become extensive. Now, after 5 years of national reconstruction, a complete public health network has taken form. In the past, under Sihanouk and Lon Nol, all rural areas did not have public

health installations. Now, 1,342 hamlets, i.e. 98.8 percent of the total number of villages in the nation, have public health and midwifery stations. Although they are built of bamboo, they are large and spacious and have two to five public health cadres and as many as five beds for emergency treatment and for giving birth. All districts have a public health center and 94 percent of the districts have hospitals with between 30 and 50 beds, including the remote districts in such difficult provinces as Mondulkiri. Although they were late in doing so, 46 percent of the districts have set up sanitation-disease prevention teams and 63 percent of the districts have set up malaria and TB-prevention teams. Those figures eloquently reflect the all-out efforts of the Kampuchean people in building a basic-level public health network.

The provincial echelon has also been promptly restored and rapidly strengthened. In 20 provinces there are 24 provincial hospitals and 17 schools to train medical aides and midwives, and most of the provinces have sanitation-disease prevention centers or units, anti-malaria teams, anti-TB teams, units to protect mothers and children, medical clinics, maternity clinics, medicine depositories, installations to produce native medicines, etc.

With those great efforts, at present Kampuchea has 16,247 hospital beds (including 4,905 beds at the village level), more than 13,000 public health cadres and personnel, and 1,655 public health installations, including 162 hospitals. In comparison to the situation in 1968, the most prosperous year of the Sihanouk period, the number of public health installations increased 1.23 times, the number of hospitals increased 2.7 times, the number of hospital beds increased 2.6 times, and the number of public health cadres doubled. With regard to college-educated cadres, at the beginning of 1975 Kampuchea had 500 doctors and more than 100 pharmacists. Then the genocidal regime killed nearly all of them, so by the liberation there were only 30 doctors and 18 college-trained pharmacists, all of whom are now core cadres of the Kampuchean public health sector. After only 5 years the corps of cadres includes 170 doctors (a 570 percent increase), 141 pharmacists (more than a seven-fold increase), 13 dentists (in the past there were none), 205 medical aides (most of them newly trained), 341 native medicine pharmacists (who were not recognized by the previous regime), 5,641 nurses, 1,537 midwives, etc.

With that network and corps of cadres, the Kampuchean public health sector has proved to be effective and of high quality. Many epidemics were surrounded and extinguished. A movement to practice sanitation, prevent disease, and build public health-sanitation projects was launched and has developed everywhere. Every province has many model hamlets and villages. Such social diseases as malaria and TB have been stopped.

In 1983, 13,826,802 physical examinations were given. On the average, each person was examined nearly two times, an increase of 5.5 times over 1968, and 241,167 people were treated in hospitals, a four-fold increase over 1968. The pharmaceutical enterprises were restored, production has steadily increased, and most of the medicine has been supplied to the public health network and to the people throughout the nation. Therefore, the health of the Kampuchean people has been rapidly restored.

A matter very worthy of attention is that during the years in which they lived miserable lives the Kampuchean public health cadres who survived because they cleverly hid their backgrounds and were able to clearly witness the extremely tragic life of their country's people under the genocidal regime had the occasion to think about the future progress of the nation, with progressive public health. Since the liberation, they have come to clearly understand the function of medical people in a new regime and enthusiastically advance in the fore to contribute to building a people's public health sector.

In the rebirth of Kampuchea, the Vietnamese public health sector has the honor of contributing to the new life of its brothers.

The Vietnamese public health sector has received many visiting delegations of Kampuchean cadres and hundreds of Kampuchean public health cadres have gone to Vietnam to study and undertake supplementary training, including 38 doctors and pharmacists who undertook graduate training, dozens of other cadres who took short-term training courses, and more than 30 students who are about to graduate as medical aides. The two countries also have a program to cooperate in fighting malaria, in training cadres, and in producing medicine, and annual protocols regarding mutual assistance have been signed.

We are very happy over the steady growth of the Kampuchean public health sector, under the leadership of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and the government of the Kampuchean People's Republic.

5616

CS0: 4209/167

KOMPONG THOM AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY, SECURITY DEVELOPMENTS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by Phung Tuan Hung: "Kompong Thom Is Changing"]

[Excerpt] Forestry, an economic sector of foremost importance in the province, has been rapidly restored and has strongly developed the local strengths. With an area of 1,046,000 hectares of forests, great prospects are opening up for the province's forestry sector. Kompong Thom's forests include many types of precious wood, such as teak to serve the boatbuilding industry, white "xao" trees, Barian dalbergia trees, etc., which are valuable raw materials for building and constructing the nation. That does not include many kinds of rare birds and animals and many kinds of precious minerals, such as good and "cu long" clay, which is used in the printing industry. However, the great capabilities of those "golden forests" can be brought into play only in the economy with a progressive society, such as that of today. After a brief period of construction, with the all-round assistance of the revolutionary administration and with its sister province in Vietnam, Dong Nai, providing the various kinds of materials and technical cadres, by 1983 the forestry sites of Kompong Thom had harvested more than 7,000 cubic meters of logs and produced thousands of cubic meters of lumber, which surpassed the annual plan norms. The many sawmills that have been built in the districts every year produce many essential wood items to meet the needs of life and local production. At present, the value of the province's forestry production amounts to 4 million riels a year. In addition to exploiting wood, the provincial forestry sector has organized many installations to exploit such forestry products as pine resin, vegetable oil, the various kinds of rattan, etc., to serve handicraft production and exports, while also actively purchasing the various kinds of forestry products from the people. Therefore, forestry is developing very rapidly in Kompong Thom.

Kompong Thom, one of the five provinces bordering Tonle Sap, has another notable resource: fish. In the past, that occupation was undeveloped. Today, with the state providing encouragement and new technical facilities and fishing methods, the province's fishing sector is rapidly achieving many accomplishments. During the 1982-1983 fishing season the fishing solidarity teams in the province caught more than 5,000 tons of fish, and the province's fishing output was among the highest in Kampuchea.

We cannot but mention Kompong Thom's great accomplishments in rapidly restoring and developing agricultural production. Kompong Thom, which in the past was a land in which jails and reform camps took up as much land as farming, today has large rice areas and high yields, thanks to intensive cultivation, increasing the number of growing seasons, and the application of new cultivation techniques. After 5 years of promoting increased production, during the recent 10th month season the province's people increased the rice-growing area to 175,000 hectares, tens of thousands of which were spread with chemical fertilizer. A notable feature is that the province achieved self-sufficiency in grain during the present grain year, for the first time ever.

In addition to the agricultural sector, the revolutionary administration has also been concerned with investing in the restoration of the industrial, communications and transportation, posts and telecommunications, handicrafts, and other sectors, which are operating regularly and have achieved initial accomplishments. The cultural-social activities have developed and the light of revolutionary knowledge has illuminated a mountains-and-jungles area that had been in darkness for years. The province now has an extensive public health network with a provincial hospital and five district clinics, and 67 of the 75 villages have clinics, totalling more than 800 beds, which have cared for the health of tens of thousands of people in the province. If in the past Kompong Thom had no schools, 5 years after the liberation all villages in that essentially mountains-and-jungles province have primary schools, all districts have second-level schools, there is a third-level school in the province, and there are nearly 90,000 students in all. The work of eliminating illiteracy among adults has developed to the remote villages and hamlets, with the result that to date more than 60,000 people in the province -- 57 percent of the total number of illiterates -- have escaped from illiteracy.

With regard to changing the lives of the people of Kampong Thom, it is necessary to mention the increasingly more important position of the new commercial sector. With a network of provincial and district commercial stores and village marketing stores, the volume of goods exchanged between the state and the people in the province has increased steadily. In 1980 the value of state industrial goods supplied to the people by the provincial commercial network amounted to 2 million riels. In 1981 the total increased to 20 million riels, and this year it reached 28 million. Comrade Rich Chan-tha [Vietnamese phonetics], head of the Provincial Industrial-Commercial Service, said that "During the past several years the provincial commercial sector has bought a considerable quantity of grain and agricultural products, and even finished forestry products, from the people. In 1982 the sector purchased rice worth 17 million riels from the people, and this year that total will be even greater. During the first 3 months of the year the Kompong Thom commercial sector purchased 12,000 tons of rice from the people in the districts.

During the past 5 years, in addition to the basic economic-social changes the soldiers and people of Kompong Thom Province have won great victories with strategic significance militarily. The border defense troops, the provincial troops, militia and self-defense forces, and people in the localities have many times intercepted and annihilated groups of reactionary Khmer bandits who surreptitiously infiltrated from Thailand to sabotage the recovery, and solidly

defended the province's military areas of operation and maintained the revolution's stability and development. Believing absolutely in the correct leadership of the Revolutionary People's Party and the state of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the people of the ethnic groups in Kompong Thom are enthusiastically promoting production and the other work, and are positively developing the homeland into a strong front-line province of the homeland.

5616

CSO: 4209/162

KAMPUCHEA

PRK AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, TOTALS REPORTED; COMPARISONS DRAWN

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Jan 84 pp 3, 4

[Article by Nguyen Xuan Truong: "Kampuchean Agriculture Undergoing Transformation"]

[Text] The people of Kampuchea are deeply imbued with deep hatred for the extremely cruel Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Sampan regime set up by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists. That genocidal regime very barbarously murdered the people and sabotaged social wealth on a large scale in Kampuchea, with its ancient Angkor civilization.

After the liberation the people of Kampuchea had to overcome countless aftereffects of the genocidal regime, especially in agricultural production.

In the past there were 2.8 million hectares of cultivated land. During the Pol pot period three-fourths of the area was abandoned, so only about 700,000 hectares were still cultivated. There had been 3.2 million water buffalo and cattle, but two-thirds were killed, so now there are only a little more than a million, of which only 350,000 can be used for draft power. There were 3,000 large tractors and 2,000 small tractors, but nearly all broke down. There are also few hand tools left. With regard to water conservancy, before the war there were a number of installations in use, and during the Pol Pot period many other were constructed, but because of many technical mistakes much damage was done, and when they fled they blew up a number of important, key installations.

The urban people were sent to the rural areas and the rural people were sent from one place to another, which caused a terrible upheaval with regard to the population and land, and great damage to the people's wealth. All of the people, men and women and adults and children, were concentrated in prisons which were outwardly "large cooperatives" and "people's communes," to force them to do hard labor. They killed more than 3 million people, including old people, children, youths, women, and millions of healthy, skilled manual workers and tens of thousands of mental workers with good scientific-technical levels.

Because of such heavy destruction to agriculture, serious famine and disease broke out among the people. The peasants of Kampuchea have encountered myriad difficulties in restoring production and stabilizing living conditions. When the survivors returned to their home areas they lacked housing, food, and

production facilities, and were pained both physically and spiritually. Under the wise leadership of the party and state of Kampuchea, and with the all-out assistance of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and the fraternal socialist nations, the people of Kampuchea strengthened their solidarity and overcame all complicated difficulties to restore the national economy, the central focus of which was the restoration of agriculture, most urgently the restoration of grain production.

Great Victories

During the past 5 years the people of Kampuchea have attained great accomplishments in restoring agriculture.

With regard to cultivation, the total cultivated area has increased every year, increasing in all to 1,058,000 hectares, an average of 395,000 hectares a year between 1979 and 1983.

During the two seasons of 1979, more than 770,000 hectares of rice were planted and the rice output was 698,850 tons, an average of 100 kilograms per person. In 1980 the area increased by 670,000 hectares and the output increased by 1.1 million tons, an average of 272 kilograms per person. In 1981 the area increased by 50,000 hectares over 1980 but output decreased by 190,000 hectares, a per capita average of 232 kilograms. In 1982 the area increased by 180,000 hectares over 1981 and output increased by 450,000 tons, a per capita average of 287 kilograms. In 1983 the area increased by 80,000 hectares over 1982 and output increased by 180,000 tons, a per capita average of more than 300 kilograms. Thus the rice area increased every year and rice output decreased one year but increased the other years. The rice area increased 980,000 hectares in all, an average annual per-capita increase of 245,000 hectares. Rice output increased by a total of 1,550,000 tons, an average annual increase of 310,000 tons.

In 1981, because of drought which lasted from the beginning of the season to the end of the season, the people had to make all-out efforts to increase the area, while output increased only slightly over 1980, a year in which it increased strongly, but both area and output increased over 1979.

During the first years after the liberation the rice output increased principally because of the clearing of wasteland and the expansion of the cultivated area. During the following years rice output was increased by expanding the area, increasing the number of growing seasons, and increasing yields. In 1983, in comparison to the pre-war years the rice area was still small (1,750,000 hectares compared to 2,730,000 hectares), but rice production was about 2,120,000 hectares (compared to 2,160,000 tons).

With regard to additional 1983 seasons, it was noteworthy that two rainy season crops were grown on 15,000 hectares. Kampot Province led the way by growing nearly 5,000 hectares. Prey Veng, Kondan, Kompong Speu, and Pursat provinces added two rainy season rice crops. In 1984 the nation as a whole intends to grow two rainy season crops on 50,000 hectares.

In future years the province will pay attention to intensive cultivation to increase rice yields, beginning with some model hamlets and extending to some high-yield rice areas.

In 1983 intensive production was practiced on about 50,000 hectares during the dry season and on more than 67,000 hectares during the 10th month season. Last year and this year there were high yields of four or five tons per hectare, and in some places of six or seven tons per hectare. The average yield of the intensive cultivation areas was about three tons per hectare. The principal intensive cultivation measures used to increase yields during the recent period have been introducing new high-yield rice varieties and combining organic fertilizer with inorganic fertilizer.

New Factors

The addition of two rainy season rice crops and intensive cultivation to increase rice yields are two new factors in Kampuchean agricultural production. They are laudable reality on a small scale but afford good large-scale prospects for Kampuchean agriculture. They are also a source of confidence for the struggle to attain a national output of more than 3 million tons of rice within a few years.

Subsidiary food crops and industrial crops have also increased every year and have increased by a total of nearly 80,000 hectares, an average of nearly 20,000 hectares a year.

Animal husbandry has increased uniformly and rapidly. The number of water buffaloes increased from 350,000 in 1979 to 501,700 in 1983. The number of cattle increased from 735,000 in 1979 to 1,190,000 in 1983. The number of draft animals increased from 768,000 in 1979 to 1,066,000 -- i.e. 533,000 pairs of draft animals -- in 1983.

The number of hogs increased from 50,000 in 1979 to 850,000 in 1983.

Logging has increased every year. The quantity of wood harvested increased from 67,700 cubic meters in 1982 to 79,000 cubic meter in 1983.

The quantity of fish caught increased every year between 1979 and 1982, from 20,000 tons to 722,000 tons.

The rubber output has also increased every year. In 1980 the rubber area being exploited amounted to nearly 5,000 hectares. It amounted to 14,300 hectares in 1983.

In sum, the winning of such victories in a brief period of time, despite one natural disaster after another and continual sabotage by the enemy, proves the very great efforts of the Kampuchean people, under the wise leadership of the Kampuchean party and state. Those victories have a very important significance. They have essentially eliminated the serious famine left behind by the Pol Pot regime among the people, and in some places the people have sufficient food and clothing. They have created favorable conditions for the

complete recovery of the national economy and contributed importantly to consolidating national independence and to national development.

New Production Relations

The victories in restoring agricultural production are tied in with the victory in agricultural production relations. In view of the heavy damage inflicted in agriculture, the people of Kampuchea had no other way than to enter production solidarity teams in order to have conditions for assisting one another in production and life.

The production solidarity team is a form of collective livelihood by peasants. At present there are more than 100,000 production solidarity teams nationwide, on a scale of between 10 and 15 households, 15 to 20 workers, and 20 to 25 hectares. Because production conditions and management levels differ from place to place, different management modes have taken form in the production solidarity team movement.

In the first mode, at a high level, the workers work in common fields and distribution according to labor is combined with equal sharing of the harvest, on a scale of three to five families per team. Distribution according to labor is combined with equal sharing, usually in accordance with rational ratios determined by the team members. For example, main workers are distributed 10 shares, secondary workers are distributed seven or eight shares, and dependents are distributed three or four shares.

The second mode is the joint carrying out of such tasks as soil preparation, seedling production, water pumping, etc. The remaining tasks are assigned to individual families, in accordance with the system of averaging labor and the number of people. In the production labor process, the families exchange labor with one another on the scale of three to five families. The labor of tasks carried out jointly and of those carried out by exchange labor is calculated fairly, and the family for which the work is done pays for the work.

The third mode is assigning farm land to individual families, according to a combination of average labor and average number of people. Then the family assumes responsibility for all aspects, from soil preparation to harvesting. The team leaders are responsible for distributing state materials, such as chemical fertilizer, insecticides, etc., to each family. In the production labor process, the families exchange labor with one another, or hire workers. With that management mode, families with sufficient labor and production facilities produce more and families which lack labor and production facilities produce less.

The agricultural and economic victories, along with the great military, political, and diplomatic victories, have brought about a miraculous rebirth in Kampuchea. Under the banner of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, the Kampuchean people are endeavoring to increase agricultural production and consolidate the production solidarity team movement in order to, within the next few years, achieve a rice output of at least 3 million tons.

5616

CSO: 4209/162

PAYMENT OF AGRICULTURAL TAXES, SALES, EXCHANGES OF RICE TO STATE FOR GOODS

[The following information is extracted from the Vientiane media on the dates indicated in the parentheses which follow each item in the REMARKS column. The following abbreviations are used: PS=PASASON; VM=VIENTIANE MAI; KPL=KHAOSAN PATHET LAO]

<u>Location</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Beng District, Oudomsai Province	Tax payments completed. Farmers paid 354 tons, exceeding the goal by 2 tons. (PS 2 Feb 84 p 1)
Savannakhet Province	Plans called for 6,948.448 tons of rice to be paid as taxes. Bad weather hurt the crop somewhat and farmers have only paid 4,437.272 tons or 63 percent of the plan. Campaign to collect taxes continues. 2,109.59 tons out of a planned 5,064 tons have been sold or exchanged for goods with the state. (PS 2 Feb 84 p 2)
Saisettha District, Vientiane Capital	44 tons paid as tax to state was 33 percent of the plan. (VM 2 Feb 84 p 2)
Louang Namtha Province	Grain Corporation collected more than 1,000 tons of rice as taxes and purchased or exchanged for goods more than 1,000 tons of rice (PS 1 Feb 84 p 1) in 1983.
Sayaboury District, Sayaboury Province	District farmers paid more than 500 tons of rice as tax since early January. (PS 1 Feb 84 p 2)
Xieng Khouang Province	Has fulfilled 47.6 percent of the plan for payment of rice taxes to state. (PS 31 Jan 84 p 1)

Houa Phan Province

Has fulfilled 47.2 percent of the plan
for payment of rice taxes to state.
(PS 31 Jan 84 p 1)

Champassak District,
Champassak Province

Grain sector has exchanged for goods
and purchased more than 1,000 tons of
rice since December 1983. Of this 772
tons were purchased. 187.5 tons has
been collected as taxes. (PS 31 Jan 84
p 1)

Paksan District, Vientiane
Province

Paid 236 tons of rice as tax.
(PS 27 Jan 84 p 1)

CSO: 4206/78

VOMD TRACES BRUNEI'S PATH TO INDEPENDENCE

BK291128 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Unattributed report: "Brunei Sultanate Declares Independence"]

[Text] January 1984, the Brunei Sultanate was freed from what was said to be British guidance and declared independent. On 7 January this year it joined ASEAN. His Highness the Sultan and concurrently Brunei governor, Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Abdullah declared on 1 January that Brunei's independence day would officially fall on 23 February.

Brunei, one of the most important oil-producing countries in the world, is situated in the north of North Kalimantan, bordering Sarawak. Its capital is Bandar Seri Begawan which was formerly named Bandar Brunei. The area of the state is 5,365 square kilometers with a population of nearly 220,000 people. Among them, about 54 percent are Malays, 26 percent of Chinese, and the balance of Lutong, Dayak, Murut, Dusun, and other ethnic races.

The Bruneian sultanate was established in the early 15th century. Because of its abundant natural resources, Brunei was a target of aggression by western colonialists like the Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch and English from the middle of the 16th century. In 1841, the Brunei Sultanate under British colonialist pressure successively surrendered Sarawak, Labuan, and Sabah to the British. In 1888, Brunei was placed under British protection and in fact becoming a British colonial territory.

From 1941 until 1945, Brunei was occupied by the Japanese. Following the Japanese surrender, Brunei once again became a British protectorate. After World War II, especially during the mid 1950's, the North Kalimantan National Liberation Movement became a growing threat to the British colonial position and interests in this region. To suppress the progress made by the North Kalimantan people and increase local anticommunist strength as well as to grab North Kalimantan's oil resources, the British colonialists in 1961 made use of the then reactionary Malayan regime to launch the Malaysia Plan with the intention of annexing Brunei. The neocolonialist plan caused dissatisfaction and aroused strong protest among the Brunei and North Kalimantan people, eventually leading to an armed rebellion in opposition to Brunei's merger with Malaysia. This rebellion is recorded in the history of Brunei's independence struggle as a victorious event even though it was cruelly

suppression by the British forces. In the end, Brunei was not included in the Malaysian Federation.

In view of the intensifying North Kalimantan revolution, including a Brunei people's patriotic movement, the British were forced to grant full self-government in May 1971 but defense and diplomatic affairs remained in British hands. In 1979, the British were forced to free Brunei from direct British rule and agreed to its becoming independent on 1 January 1984.

Brunei's independence is the result of a long struggle by Bruneians and the people of North Kalimantan. Although Brunei is politically independent, this independence is not complete. Many citizens have no democratic rights. Brunei's main economic artery is still controlled by the British monopoly capitalists. Bruneians need to continue their struggle to attain complete independence, people's democratic rights, economic progress and better living standards for the people.

CSO: 4213/165

METRO MANILA SURVEY OPPOSES ELECTION BOYCOTT

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] Majority of the residents of Metro Manila are in favor of voting in the forthcoming May Batasan elections, according to a survey conducted by Research Associates.

The survey showed that 75 percent of the respondents are in favor of participating in the Batasan elections while a meager 17 percent are in favor of boycott.

On the manner of voting, an average of 71 percent of the respondents from all electoral districts of Metro Manila favored voting by individual candidates. On the other hand, only an average of 22 percent said they were in favor of voting by party affiliation.

Of the electoral districts, Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela have the highest percentage (86 percent) of respondents who are in favor of participating in the elections while the lowest percentage (67 percent) came from the districts of Las Pinas and Paranaque.

On those who favored a boycott of the May elections, the survey noted that the largest group of the respondents were from Manila (25 percent), and Las Pinas and Paranaque (22 percent), and San Juan and Mandaluyong (20 percent).

Respondents in the different electoral districts in Metro Manila, the survey revealed, are still undecided on who should be chosen and still don't know for whom to vote in their respective districts if the voting is done by individual candidates.

On those who favored voting by party affiliations, majority of the residents of Metro Manila or an average of 32 percent think that the KBL will win in the elections while an average of 21 percent think that other political parties will win.

An average of 23 percent of the respondents in all the electoral districts said that they do not know what party deserves to win and an average of 24 percent of the respondents gave no answer.

The highest percentage of respondents who favored the KBL was from Caloocan (59 percent). The KBL was least favored in Makati (19 percent). The other political parties, the survey said, were strongest in Pateros, Taguig and Muntinlupa (37 percent) and weakest in Pasay (8 percent).

On the qualities that an ideal assemblyman should possess, Metro Manila respondents gave more emphasis to character than skill and intelligence. Sixty three percent voted for character, 32 percent for skill and 14 percent for intelligence. (Domestic Information Service)

CSO: 4200/555

BATASAN BILL ALLOWS CANDIDATES TO SWITCH PARTIES

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Feb 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] President Marcos said last night that the issue on whether or not the dates for the general registration of voters should be pushed back to prevent a possible disenfranchisement of qualified voters is up to the Batasan and the Commission on Elections.

The President pointed out that the Batasan can resolve the issue since the legislative body is still in session.

The Comelec, meanwhile, said it has the authority to designate additional registration days to accommodate voters unable to register during the four days fixed by law.

Chairman Vicente M. Santiago Jr said the poll body can also reschedule the prescribed registration date if warranted.

Other developments:

--The Batasan approved an amendment to the election bill allowing any candidate, including a public official, to change party affiliation for the May 14 elections.

--The Batasan also voted to prohibit the establishment of voting centers in military camps.

--Volunteers of the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) are now campaigning to encourage all qualified voters to register, including those who are for boycott of the May elections.

The proposal to reset the dates for the registration of voters came from various sectors, including the National Citizens Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) which pointed out that many students from the province may not be able to register under the present schedule since they would still be attending classes in universities and colleges in Manila.

Schedule of registration stipulated under Presidential Decree 1896 is March 17-18 and 24-25.

Since classes will end at the end of March, students from the provinces studying in Manila will not be able to go home and register, it was pointed out.

Namfrel added that the dates of registration be moved to March 24, 25 and March 31 and April 7. This would give students time to register in their hometowns and obviate the need for them to go home twice to register and vote in the election.

The decree providing for a general registration was issued by the President last Jan 11 upon the recommendation of the Batasan through the committee on revision of rules and constitutional amendments headed by Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez.

The legislative body was then in recess and it was felt that there was no material time for it to go through the regular legislative process.

Since the Batasan is currently in session, it can resolve the issue of whether to change the dates or not, the President said.

Should the Batasan fail to do so before its adjournment, the President said he will resolve the problem himself.

The other day, the Batasan ruled that Comelec has the authority to move the dates for the registration of voters since PD 1896 already provides for the registration days and additional days if necessary.

Santiago said the poll body cannot change the registration dates under the decree, but any change may be done by the President himself or the Batasan. The Comelec may only authorize additional registration dates, he added.

Santiago allayed fears that students who want to register in their provinces may be disenfranchised because of the late dismissal of classes in some schools. The National Citizens Movement for Free Elections had proposed the moving of the registration dates to March 24, 25 and 31 and April 1.

The Comelec also heard yesterday oral arguments on the petition of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan for declaration as the ruling political party.

KBL lawyer Pareto Patacsil presented documentary evidence tending to show that the KBL won 151 of the 165 Batasan seats in the 1978 elections; 95.91 percent of the posts of governors, vice governors and members of the sangguniang panglalawigan; 84.51 percent of the posts of city mayor, vice mayor and members of the sangguniang panglungsod; and 83.64 percent of the posts of municipal mayor, vice mayor and members of the sangguniang bayan in the 1980 local elections.

The KBL said that its candidate in the 1981 presidential election, Ferdinand E. Marcos, garnered 18.3 million votes with Nacionalista Party standard bearer former Defense Secretary Alejo S. Santos coming out a poor second with 1.7 million votes.

The Comelec also set for Feb 21 hearing on the petition of the Nacionalista Party for declaration or accreditation as the dominant political party in all the country's regions.

The NP, represented by lawyers Bobby P. Yuseco and Esmeraldo U. Guloy, said it has no objection to the KBL petition for declaration as the ruling political party.

Other political parties, however, through their lawyers, opposed the KBL petition. Those opposed, including the PDP-Laban, UNIDO, National Union for Liberation, Lapiang Manggagawa (Workers Party) and the Philippine Labor Party, the Christian Democratic Party and the ATO (Association taga Opposition) were requested by the Comelec to submit their position papers within one week, starting yesterday. The KBL was also asked to submit its reply to the opposition within four days, or not later than Feb 27.

The amendment removing turncoatism was introduced by Assemblyman Emmanuel Pelaez who said Assemblyman Arturo M. Tolentino was also behind the move.

Previously, an elective public official may change parties only within one year immediately before he runs in an election.

Pelaez said he and Tolentino wanted to do away with political turncoatism or opportunism which was prohibited in previous elections.

The question as to whether a candidate is an opportunist or not would be decided by the voters themselves and not by the courts or the Comelec, Pelaez said.

The Commission on Elections had been flooded with election protests based on political turncoatism. This includes the case of Cagayan de Oro Mayor Aquilino Pimental which still has to be decided by the Supreme Court.

The move to prohibit establishment of voting centers in military camps was in the form of an amendment to the proposed 34-page election law (PB 2312) whose period of amendments entered its third consecutive day yesterday.

Opposition Assemblyman Hilario G. Davide Jr (Pusyyong Bisaya, r-7) introduced the amendment to enable, he said, voters near military camps to exercise their right of suffrage more freely, without any possible military pressure.

Assemblyman Arturo M. Tolentino also submitted in writing his proposed amendments to the election law in the form of new provisions. He proposed that no person may be arrested or detained for any act committed in connection with the election campaign for the election of Batasan members on May 14, except only by virtue of a warrant of arrest issued by a judge.

Tolentino also proposed the suspension of the applicability of existing decrees which impose the death penalty and deprivation of citizenship and confiscation of property for political offenses.

In a talk yesterday to students of Maryknoll College Foundation who will be taking part in the registration campaign, Jose Concepcion Jr., national chairman, said that "even those considering to boycott the coming elections should be urged to register so that they can maintain up to last moment the flexibility of deciding whether to vote or to boycott, considering the many political developments that may take place between now and Election Day."

CSO: 4200/555

OPPOSITION LEADER MACEDA RETURNS FROM U.S.

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 13 Feb 84 pp 1, 15

[Article by C.C. Rosales]

[Text]

MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT —
Former Sen. Ernesto Maceda battled yesterday for young leaders "who are attuned to the times and who are now prepared to assume responsible roles" to run the affairs of government.

In an interview upon his arrival from the United States, Maceda said that old politicians should now give way and limit themselves to advisory or supporting roles.

"I support the call for Mr. Marcos to resign and to transfer power to a representative transition group," he said.

He said he is back after five-and-half years in exile to contribute to the efforts to solve the critical problems of the country.

He has offered to act as liaison man between the Church and civic groups in the US and the Philippines and help the opposition restore democracy and the people get back their basic freedom.

"The martyrdom of

Ninoy Aquino has set into motion an irreversible trend towards the realization of these goals," Maceda said.

Filipinos abroad, he said, have been following the statements and proposals of Cardinal Sin with great interest. He said they hope and pray that he continues to take interest in the people's democratic aspirations.

In the meantime, he said, it would be advisable to undertake charitable projects, such as soup kitchens, health clinics, adopt-a-child or adopt-a-school programs and other self-help community projects to help alleviate the miseries of our people.

"These are the types of projects that can easily draw support from the Filipino communities in the United States," he stressed.

He said he does not intend to run in the coming Batasan elections although, he said, he is willing to campaign for his colleagues in the opposition. (C.C. Rosales)

ECONOMIC MINISTER CRITICIZES ONGPIN INDUSTRIALIZATION PLAN

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 30 Jan 84 p 3

[Text] Manila, Jan 29--

PHILIPPINE Economic Planning Minister Vicente Valdepenas was on a collision course yesterday with Industry Minister Roberto Ongpin when he branded as "premature" the attempt to industrialise the Philippines with capital-intensive industries at the expense of agriculture.

The *Metro-Manila Times* daily reported that Mr Valdepenas said there was now a critical need to "redeploy" government resources and efforts toward agricultural development.

He said that responsibility for much of the Philippines' "economic woes rests on those in government who pushed for all-

out industrialisation, mesmerised by the thought of having a capital-intensive industrialised state."

Mr Valdepenas said projects under the 11 major industrial projects scheme which are capital-intensive would have to go except for the integrated steel, the completed copper smelter, the low-power truck diesel engine projects.

Mr Ongpin is the chief adviser on the 11 major projects, according to the daily, and was pushing for the scheme until the economic crisis forced a halt.

The Economic Planning Minister said that

his ministry is now in the process of restructuring the local industrial system with the new thrust being for quick-paying types of investments rather than "the heavy types of industrial ventures that the country's bright boys were dreaming about."

The Philippines has neglected its comparative advantage in agriculture in a "misguided attempt at industrialisation," he added. He said that production cycles in agriculture were only from four to eight months and did not require too much foreign exchange compared with the major industrial projects proposed. — AFP

LAUREL AFFAIR 'PUBLIC RELATIONS NIGHTMARE'

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 19 Feb 84 pp 4, 5

[Commentary by Neal H. Cruz in the "As We See It" column: "Planting Guns Is Never Fun"]

[Text] Why would a Filipino smuggle a handgun to the US? If he wants to shoot somebody, guns are as easy to acquire as hot dogs in the US. You can walk into any gun store there, plunk your money on the counter, and a gun is yours. Guns are usually smuggled from the US to the Philippines. Smuggling a gun from the Philippines to the US, that's really news.

The Laurel affair is a public relations nightmare for the government and a bonanza for the opposition. The Avsecom is in a no-win position. The PR coup is easily worth millions of pesos to the opposition. Laurel is suddenly in the limelight. Americans and Filipinos in the US who otherwise wouldn't care what he was going to say, would now flock to his speeches, if only to hear what happened at the Manila International Airport. Now he would be welcomed in the US as a hero and a martyr being persecuted by an autocratic government. The President should fire the people in his administration who think they are farmers and gardeners.

President Marcos also has some PR sense. By ordering the release of Laurel, he recovered the PR initiative and prevented further damage to the government's image. The opposition will try to milk it of all the PR mileage it can get, but if the other side considers the case closed, the publicity and controversy will soon fade away.

Meanwhile, the boycott movement of Macapagal and Co is like throwing the turtle into the river. The KBL is making all the noises and gestures to show that it wants the opposition to participate in the Batasan elections in May. But actually, many KBL candidates are silently cheering the boycott movement. It makes winning a Batasan seat so much easier and cheaper. In fact, some people suspect that some KBL smart guys are behind the boycott movement and that the Macapagal wing of the LP is a Trojan horse, just like the Roy wing of the NP in the last presidential elections.

The truth is that many KBL candidates, incumbents included, are scared stiff that they will lose in the May elections. Some Metro Manila assemblymen can't decide where to run, in Metro Manila or in their home provinces. A boycott is heaven-sent for them.

Frankly, I don't see what the boycott promoters hope to accomplish by that. Deny legitimacy to the Batasan elections? Even if only 30 percent of the voters go to the polls, the candidates who get the most number of votes cast will still be declared the winners, not the boycotters. They will remain outsiders looking in. So what did they accomplish? Tell the world that only one-third of the voters voted? In US elections, voter turnout normally varies from 30 percent to a little over 50 percent, but you don't hear anybody questioning the legitimacy of the elections or the results. Only 45 percent voted in the last plebiscite, but the constitutional amendments are considered ratified, so what did the boycott accomplish?

The irony is that opposition candidates now have the best chance of winning because of economic problems, high prices, unemployment, the Aquino assassination, and the various demos. But some segments in the opposition do not want to fight or even allow their followers to vote for opposition candidates. And yet many voters would vote for any candidate except KBL candidates. "If I let my dog run as a candidate in my province," said a politician, "it will win by a landslide."

That is why many of the younger opposition leaders are bitter over the decision to boycott by the "political has beens." Why not? They have been hungry for the last 17 years. They will be hungry for at least six more if they don't run in the May elections. "These old politicians think only of themselves," said one oppositionist. "They don't want to spend. They don't want to work. They're only waiting to die. What about us?"

He is right. Macapagal, Tanada, Diokno, Salong, they're all old men. There's a little fight left in them. To run or to campaign means money. There will be few campaign contributors--what with the economic recession and all. Why waste what little is left of their money? So, they're going to sit it out and wait for a miracle.

To them, I say this: It is better to fight and lose than not to fight at all.

CSO: 4200/555

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION APPROVES CREDIT GUARANTEES

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Feb 84 p 8

[Text]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 - The US Commodity Credit Corp. (CCC) Wednesday approved an additional \$75-million in credit guarantees for the Philippines to enable food manufacturers to import essential raw materials.

This is the third credit guarantee approved by the CCC for the Philippines during the past four months, according to agriculture attache Victoriano Leviste of the Philippine Embassy.

The first guarantee, for \$50 million, was granted in November last year for the purchase of American wheat. The second, for \$75 million, was approved Dec. 23, 1983, for the importation of various US commodities including soybean meal and cotton.

* * *

THE third credit facility is intended to cover importations of the following:

- a) \$38 million for feedgains (for the hog and poultry industry)
- b) \$17 million for barley malt
- c) \$3 million for hop extract
- d) \$1 million for dried beans
- e) \$1 million for planting seeds
- f) \$10 million for meat and bone meal, and
- g) \$5 million for breeding stocks

Export guarantees are extended by the CCC to facilitate trade transactions. (PNA)

CSO: 4200/555

PHILIPPINES

U.S. PAPER DISCLOSES 'TERRORIST PLOT'

HK200044 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] The American newspaper ARIZONA REPUBLIC disclosed yesterday details of the U.S.-based terrorist plot to overthrow the Philippine Government. The report was based on what it described as extremely sensitive federal records, which cited the testimony of Victor Burns Lovely, a key witness in the case. Lovely was arrested in Manila in 1980 at the time of the bombings in the city, and was later deported to the United States. Lovely was among the Filipinos and Americans trained for the terrorist movement in the Arizona desert.

Among those cited in the report for being involved in the plot were four men who were involved in the Light-a-Fire and the April 6 Liberation movements that began in 1979. It ended a year later, when the plot was discovered following an accidental bomb explosion which injured Lovely. The case was investigated by a U.S. grand jury in San Francisco at the request of the Philippine Government.

CSO: 4200/521

COLUMNIST EXAMINES KBL 'PIRATING OF OPPOSITION CANDIDATES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 14 Feb 84 p 6

[Article by Jesus Bigornia: "KBL Pirating Opposition Standouts?"]

[Text] If Metro Manila's administration slates for the May Batasang Pambansa elections are late a-coming, check it off to reported on-going negotiations to "pirate" opposition standouts as candidates of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL). Most often mentioned is Enrique Zobel, gentleman-farmer and banker, who reports claim, has been offered the KBL slot for the Muntinlupa-Taguig-Pateros district. Also titilated, sources say, is Jose Concepcion, industrialist and president of the National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) with candidacy in Manila. Similar overtures with the better known oppositionists as targets have been made, the reports claim.

All of which has thrown a chill over faithful party men aspiring for seats in the country's lawmaking body. Feeling the icy wind more bitterly than others, Rene L. Cayetano, head of the big Cayetano law offices, has his fingers crossed in hopes that Zobel would yet decline the offer of the Muntinlupa-Pateros-Taguig district. A native of Pateros, Cayetano has been receiving endorsements from civic and political groups of his hometown. Possessing impeccable academic credentials--Bachelor of Laws, University of the Philippines and Doctor of Laws, University of Michigan--Cayetano has all the earmarks of a good lawmaker. But, as the saying goes, when men propose, still the gods of the KBL dispose.

Mr Mostafa Toudekesht, information officer, denies a suggestion printed in this space that the Iranian embassy in Makati has become the hangout of a "hit squad" from Teheran. He says in a letter to the editor-in-chief of this newspaper: "Considering reality, the squad pointed out is basically a product of the imagination of some misinformed individuals. Hereby the mentioned text is denied." The Iranian embassy officer is silent, however, on a further claim that the diplomatic establishment has been financing the printing and distribution of propaganda material critical of the Philippine government and especially of President Marcos among Moslem Filipinos.

It becomes necessary for this column to remind him of a criminal case pending in the Regional Trial Court in Makati in which an Iranian dentist accuses three Iranian "students" of beating him up within the premises of the Iranian embassy. Detention of the accused at the Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) has, moreover, triggered a spate of anti-government propaganda in Jomhoori Islami, the official newspaper of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Claiming torture of the detained accused, Jomhoori Islami demands their immediate release. Jomhoori Islami brands President Marcos as a puppet of the United States and the trial judge corrupt.

CSO: 4200/554

GUNMEN KILL CAPTURED MNLF LEADER

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 13 Feb 84 p 36

[Article by Romeo C. Chan]

[Text]

DAVAO CITY — A captured and foreign-trained Moro National Liberation Front commander was shot dead while his military escort was seriously wounded by unidentified men at Garcia heights, Bajada, this city, last Saturday.

Police identified the fatality as Sayre Kobayashi, 35. Wounded was Juan Salumbrana of the intelligence unit of the Constabulary regional command here.

Police said the two were on their way to Bajada town on a motorcycle when they were shot by three men.

Kobayashi was cap-

tured by lawmen in a raid in Tibungku, here, last Feb. 11. He admitted having been trained in guerrilla warfare in Sabah before his assignment here.

During the Tibungku raid, the PC team seized five garand and five armalite rifles, six carbines, one 40-mm grenade launcher, one m-79 rifle, one AK-50 assault rifle, one Belgian FAL, one BAR rifle, one British bren, four radio receivers, and several rounds of ammunition.

Kobayashi suffered wounds in the head and body from bullets fired from a .45 caliber and 9-mm pistols. (Romeo C. Chan)

CSO: 4200/554

BENEDICTO MEETS SUGAR PLANTERS TO DISCUSS REFORMS

End of Sugar Monopoly Considered

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 13 Feb 84 pp 1, 15

[Text]

BACOLOD (UPI) — Sugar czar Roberto S. Benedicto, faced with a growing revolt by debt-strapped farmers, indicated Saturday that he was considering an end to the government monopoly on sugar trading.

Benedicto's comments came a week after 5,000 sugar planters and laborers marched through Bacolod City to demand the dismantling of the trading monopoly, the National Sugar Trading Corp. (Nasutra), and its sister agency, the Philippine Sugar Commission (Philsucom).

Benedicto, who heads both agencies, said he planned to discuss a possible return to free enterprise in the sugar industry with President Marcos.

"We have been maligned time and again and I cannot afford to be charged that I don't want

free enterprise," Benedicto told a group of 30 leading planters in Bacolod.

He said the protests by some planters had raised a "question of confidence" in the two regulatory agencies, and hinted it might be time for them to "gracefully withdraw."

"The time has come for us to make decisions for the betterment of the industry and take stock of ourselves," Benedicto said.

Organizers of last week's march in Bacolod said Benedicto's statement proved their protest had been successful.

The demonstration was the first public show of defiance against the giant sugar agencies.

But Corazon Zayco, treasurer of the new Alliance of Sugar Producers, said the planters would "wait and see" if Benedicto followed through on his comments.

Zayco said the planters want to get back the right to sell their sugar on the

open market. She said they want to set up their own marketing cooperatives to replace Nasutra.

At present, Nasutra takes control of the sugar when it reaches the mill and arranges for sale domestically and overseas.

Planters have accused the agency of shortchanging them on sugar transactions and charging exorbitant trading fees.

Zayco said 80 per cent of the planters on Negros island, the country's "sugar bowl," are behind on their debt repayments because they have been unable to get a fair return for their sugar.

The planters said sugar has dropped from being the Philippines' No. 1 export in terms of dollars earned to No. 7 since Philsucom and Nasutra were established in 1977.

But Benedicto said the industry had grown since the government agencies were set up.

The Philippines is one of the world's top 10 sugar producers.

Producers Urge Nasutra Retention

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 16 Feb 84 pp 1, 7

[Text] Majority of sugar planters yesterday endorsed the continued operation of the National Sugar Trading Corp (Nasutra), even as the government reiterated its decision to allow free trade in both export and domestic sugar.

The planters publicly expressed their desire in a hearing called by Ambassador Roberto S. Benedicto, chairman of the Philippine Sugar Commission (Philsucom), to appraise industry leaders of the consequences of a return to free sugar trading.

"Under the system of free sugar trading, the producers will have the choice, the freedom to sell their sugar. Nasutra will continue to function as one of the sugar traders, like any other trader in the market," Benedicto said.

Free trading will resume upon approval by President Marcos of amendments to PD 1192 which provided for the creation of Nasutra as the single trading agency for sugar.

Benedicto stressed he wanted an immediate change to free sugar trading as demanded by certain sectors of the industry who have bitterly criticized the monopoly on sugar trading by Nasutra.

"If the practices are as bad as some people say, the soonest we do this (return to free trading), the better," he said. But majority of industry leaders present, including Nasutra critics, expressed overwhelming support and continued trading by Nasutra.

Jose Zubiri and Mayor Jose Celo, who represented Mindanao and Iloilo planters, respectively, expressed their groups' "unequivocal" support for Nasutra. Similar endorsements were expressed by sugar industry leaders from Cebu, Cagayan, the Bicol region and other sugar producing areas.

With free sugar trading, planters who do not want to sell to Nasutra can deal with other dealers, subject to certain guidelines to be drawn up shortly by the Philsucom.

"This is what you want, so let it be. You have the choice," Benedicto told sugar planters who have publicly called for an end to Nasutra monopoly.

Benedicto ruled out a gradual return to free trade to put an end to unfair accusations of Nasutra.

The Philsucom head recalled that the Nasutra's organized in 1977, helped the sugar industry which was then on the verge of collapse. He said that because of Nasutra's volume potential and credibility, it was able to negotiate long-term contracts which are the most advantageous attained for any developing country.

CSO: 4200/554

COLUMNIST ON BAGUIO KBL CANDIDATE, VIRATA WITHDRAWAL LIKELIHOOD

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 10 Feb 84 p 6

[Article by Jesus Bigornia: "KBL Situation in Baguio 'Ma-Labo'"]

[Text]

UNLIKE clear skies prevailing over the Pines City, the political situation of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) in Baguio remains turgid — "ma-Labo." Unprecedented wintry blasts are sending chills of apprehension among the regional leaders of the KBL with the entry into the poll contest of an influential "faith healer" with strong political connections. Talk circulating in coffee shops here and in Baguio claim that a "Doctor" Jun Labo has been given ironclad guarantees of his nomination as official KBL candidate of Baguio in the coming Batsan elections.

* * *

But a dozen aspirants have not given up, particularly Luis Lardizabal, former city mayor and former Commission on Elections commissioner. Labo's rivals have dug up official confirmation by the Australian government that the favored contender had taken up Australian citizenship. It is held that by opting for Australian citizenship while residing in Australia several years ago, Labo forfeited the privilege of seeking a seat in the lawmaking body as provided in the Constitution. But the "doctor" was

quick to point out that he gave up his Australian citizenship upon his return to the Philippines last year. President Marcos as titular head of the KBL, referred the political tug-of-war to Ministers Jose D. Aspiras (Tourism) and Conrado Estrella (Agrarian Reform) for solution.

He had everybody fooled, including those in the opposition, that he was anti-administration. So effective was the ploy that he was suggested as a possible "alternate leader" during the post-Marcos era by Kongreso ng Mamamayang Pilipino (Kompil). He was even nominated member of the board of trustees of foundation dedicated to the memory of assassinated Liberal leader Benigno Aquino, Jr. Interviews he gave to the "alternative" press and the posturings of a businessman's lobby he founded reinforced the impression.

* * *

Ever so slowly, however, this self-anointed demi-god of business has shed his disguise and his true nature has emerged. His conspicuous absence at the inauguration of the Aquino Foundation provided the inkling of what he really is. He is now reported ready to officially affiliate with the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) — if the terms he has set are met. Reports have it that he will accept anything

less than the post of minister of finance. Politics and business do seem to make strange bedfellows. But then, businessmen and politicians are known for making strange compromises.

It may not be so Solomonic decision. But a suggestion to ask Prime Minister Cesar Virata to desist from seeking election to the Batasang Pambansa may just be the solution to an increasingly acrimonious KBL intramural for slots in the Batasan slate for Cavite. As the country's No. 1 financial wizard, he could always be appointed to the lawmaking body by the President under his appointing powers. With Virata out of the way, the central committee of the ruling party can accommodate the reelection bid of Assembly-

woman Helena Benitez whom the Cavite provincial committee had scratched. The KBL lineup would then consist of reelectionist Benitez and Nuñez and banker Renato Dragon.

* * *

Lacking both interest and desire for politics, the introvert prime minister was prevailed into entering the lists in order to acquire a constituency. Whoever heard of a prime minister without a balliwick? supporters asked. Among those who had argued for standing for election were President Marcos. Since then, Mr. Virata has been bitten by the political bug and may not relish being sidelined to accommodate a colleague who has lost her appeal with the electorate.

CSO: 4200/554

PHILIPPINES

WORLD BANK LOAN CONDITIONS PUBLISHED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 14 Feb 84 p 10

[Article by Rose de la Cruz]

[Text] The World Bank has imposed a number of conditions, particularly, dismantling of government controls in the marketing of some agricultural products, for the release of \$150 million in "quick disbursing" loans.

Out of the \$150 million funds to be made available, about \$45 million will be used for fertilizer imports, followed by pesticides with \$15 million and feedgrains, \$50 million.

The other agricultural inputs to be financed by the loan are: veterinary products, \$14 million; breeding stock (poultry and hogs), \$5 million; machinery and spare parts, \$20 million, and technical assistance and support to NFAC, \$1 million.

Compliance of the conditions will be reviewed by the WB this May.

Among the conditions are:

--Lifting the price controls for livestock products.

--Liberalization of the wheat trade and phasing out of the National Food Authority's (NFA) exclusivity in this area.

--For the NFA to allow the private sector participation in the marketing and trading of yellow corn, soyabeans and other feeds.

--Proposed reorganization of the National Food and Agriculture Council (NFAC).

--An indicative draft of the five-year (1985-89) plan for food and agricultural development activities and a corresponding expenditure program for 1985.

--Proof that the government has initiated a study to review the present pricing and marketing of poultry, pork and beef, and a program for the deregulation of beef imports.

ARMY TO GIVE 'SARILING SIKAP' PRIORITY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Feb 84 p 4

[Text] Maj Gen Josephus Q. Ramas, Army commanding general, ordered yesterday all major and subordinate commanders to actively participate in the "Sariling Sikap" program.

In his directive, Ramas said he was giving top priority to the "Sariling Sikap" over other Army undertakings because the program is the groundwork for the security and development efforts of the Armed Forces.

The order was given during a command conference held yesterday in Fort Bonifacio. He told the commanders to give the necessary assistance to the people working on the program and to give them utmost security and protection, especially in critical areas.

In the same directive, Ramas directed the Army engineer brigades to help open areas by building roads and improve existing ones leading to sites of "Sikap" projects, particularly the "people's forest" program.

Ramas also ordered field and battalion commanders to conduct "Sikap" information campaigns in their respective areas of operation. Meanwhile, Col Mateo Bawagan, chief of the Army civil relations service, said that 26 hectares of idle land in the Army camp is now being developed into a big "Kilusang Kabuhayan at Kaunlaran" (KKK) farm planted with vegetables, corn, pineapple, fruit-bearing trees and ipil-ipil trees.

Bawagan said livestock will also be raised and fishponds will be developed.

As of yesterday, Bawagan said over three million ipil-ipil trees had been planted in Army camps nationwide. The trees, according to Bawagan, are being used to supply the unit's firewood requirements and for charcoal briquetting.

CSO: 4200/554

THREE TORTURED, KILLED IN MISAMIS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 10 Feb 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Casiano Navarro]

[Text]

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY —

Three persons, including a barangay captain, were tortured and killed by 22 unidentified armed men in Kimaya, Villanueva, Misamis Oriental Thursday afternoon.

Mayor Vicente Y. Imano of adjacent Tagoloan town, identified the fatalities as barangay captain Carlote Ubalubal, Agustin Gumayao, and a certain Roldan.

Imano said the witnesses, who brought the bodies to funeral parlors, told him that the armed men, some wearing fatigue uniform, ordered Ubalubal to gather all residents at the barangay hall.

Once assembled, the men asked the victims to

step forward. At gunpoint, they herded the three to a place some 200 meters away from the barangay hall where they were tied, beaten with pieces of wood, and had their throats slashed.

Although the witnesses could not determine the motive of the killing, the witnesses told Imano that earlier, Ubalubal had tried to organize a civilian home defense force to fight the New People's

Army.

For fear that the armed men may return to the barangay, the residents took refuge in nearby Rosario village. (Casiano Navarro)

CSO: 4200/554

SULU CLAN FEUD KILLS FIVE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Feb 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Vic Arevalo]

[Text]

ZAMBOANGA CITY — Five persons were killed and eight others were injured in four clashes in the last four days involving feuding clans in Jolo town.

The tense situation resulted in the disruption of business and the

closure of schools and government offices last Thursday and Friday.

Sultan Mahakuttah Kiram of the Sulu sultanate said several townspeople have evacuated and some 50 families have left for Zamboanga City to avoid being caught in the crossfire.

Involved in the feud are the Tan and Samsuya families, on one hand, and armed factions in Patikul and Talibao municipalities reportedly led by police Lt. Percy Tulawie, on the other.

The feud allegedly started last Feb. 11 when members of the Tan and Samsuya families who came from a birthday party in Kasanyangan village, were fired upon by an armed group while on board their vehicle. Killed in the incident was Henry Samsuya while injured were Kenyan Tan, Alfredo Francisco, Anchua Samsuya, and Patrolman Tuttoh of the Jolo police force.

The Tan and Samsuya families reportedly believed that the Tulawie clan was behind the Feb. 11 incident, PC sources said.

Last Wednesday morning, Pat. Adlai Asgal of the Salipao police force was reportedly killed in front of the PC headquarters. Two bystanders — Abdurasal Asared, a member of the 471st PC company, and Nujaral Sabdani, a civilian — were also killed.

Asgal was a member of the Tulawie clan of Salipao.

Last Friday, Tinghuan Samsuya was killed by an armed group while on board a tricycle on Matada st., downtown Jolo. His son Rocky and tricycle driver A. Abduhabil were wounded.

A few minutes later, armed groups of the Tan

and Tulawie factions reportedly figured in a running gunbattle along Matada st., resulting in injuries to Saluan Insin and Benjamin Bagis.

Sources said some of the armed men involved in the clash are Civilian Home Defense Force and special paramilitary forces personnel and former rebels who were given arms to protect themselves.

The military said the situation has been placed under control. Southern Command chief Maj. Gen. Delfin Castro said a series of peace conferences was held in Jolo yesterday.

The conferences were attended by Sulu Gov. Tupay Loong, Jolo Mayor Aminkadra Abubakar, peace and order council chairman, and Brig. Gen. Mariano Miranda of the 1st Infantry Tabak division. (Vic Arevalo)

PHILIPPINES

EIGHT MNLF KILLED BY CIVILIAN HOME DEFENSE FORCES

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 17 Feb 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Roy Singuego]

[Text] Cotabato City--Eight Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) rebels were killed by civilian home defense forces (CHDF) in a gunbattle in barangay Banaba, Ampatuan, Maguindanao, last Wednesday at about 1 pm.

Lt Col Rogaciano Bail, 38th infantry battalion commander, in his report to Regional Unified Command 12 headquarters here said the rebels, numbering about 20, were intercepted while on a cattle-rustling mission.

Their mission order was signed by Musamed Salaima, alias Kumander Adan of the Salamat faction.

The gunbattle lasted about 30 minutes. Firearms of various caliber, two grenades and bladed weapons were taken from the rebels.

Bail said two companies of the 38 IB were immediately sent to track down the rebels.

CSO: 4200/554

VIET REFUGEES DESCRIBE ABUSE FROM FILIPINOS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Feb 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by O. Masaganda]

[Text]

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY — Three Vietnamese women related their harrowing experience at the hands of Filipino fishermen who rescued them along with 22 other refugees but later abandoned them in an isolated island off Balabac, Palawan.

The three women — Vo Thi Tuyet Hong, 24, and Chu Thi Linh and Nguyen Thi Kim Liew, both 14 — are apparently the only survivors in a group of 25 refugees who left Vietnam on Sept. 23 aboard a small vessel.

They told the Bulletin that five of their companions died at sea, while the 17 others were missing.

They said that when their vessel ran out of fuel, they sailed listlessly at sea for weeks. Hong said they spotted "some 40 to 50 ships" but none of

these went to their succor.

They said a Filipino vessel intercepted them but abandoned them after they failed to give gold and other valuable items to the crew.

When their boat neared Balabac, an unidentified boat with Filipino fishermen "went to their rescue."

The fishermen ordered the three women to transfer to the fishing boat which towed the refugees' vessel.

One of the fishermen reportedly cut off the rope that tied the refugees' vessel to the boat, leaving behind the other refugees.

The women said the fishermen abused them. They were later taken to

Mangsi island, Balabac, where they were left behind.

The three women were taken to the refugee center here from Balabac last Jan 17.

Representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees arrived here yesterday to investigate the incident.

Commodore Gil Fernandez, western command chief, ordered Col Francisco Carreon, Palawan PC-INP commander, to conduct a separate probe.

Commodore Ismael Aparri, chief of the naval forces in western Philippines, said his men are now looking for the fishermen.

The women said they could identify the fishermen if they see them again.

CSO: 4200/554

PROSPECTS OF LAUREL, LEVISTE RECONCILIATION REPORTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Feb 84 p 28

[Text]

A possible reconciliation of the Laurels and the Levistes loomed in Batangas yesterday.

Local political leaders said the reason for this is the reported "raw deal" the Levistes got from the provincial hierarchy of the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL).

They said the vote-rich second district, the biggest district in the province where the opposition has two candidates, was not given a single Batasan seat.

The mayors of the district, led by Batangas City Mayor Conrado C. Berberabe, San Juan Mayor Vicente Lecaros, and

sangguniang panlalawigan majority floor leader Olegario Cantos, Jr., petitioned President Marcos for compulsory representation for the second district in the slate.

Of the eight KBL aspirants, Assemblywoman Soledad Dolor and former Congressman Roberto Diokno are from the first district. Minister Arturo Tancó, Jr., Deputy Minister Manuel Colantes, and Querubin Macalintal represent the third district. Only former Gov. Antonio Leviste is the aspirant from the second district since Assemblyman Expedito Leviste, his cousin, and Roberto Calangui, withdrew in his favor.

The local leaders

pointed out that proof of the strategic importance of the district is that six out of eight winners in the election for sanggunian members came from this district. For the same reason, the opposition has two candidates from the district.

According to them, the proposed KBL ticket includes two representatives each for the first and third districts, leaving no representation for the second district.

The mayors expressed concern over the chances of the Batangas KBL ticket if the inequity is not resolved. According to them, this will be the first time in the history of Batangas politics that a Leviste is not in a ticket.

NFA URGES CHARCOAL AS HOUSEHOLD FUEL ALTERNATE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Feb 84 pp 1, 6

[Article by Fred Lobo]

[Text] The government said yesterday it will encourage and promote the use of charcoal nationwide as an alternative energy source to help bring down oil import bills.

The National Food Authority (NFA) said charcoal, a cheap household fuel, will be sold in all Kadiwa centers following instruction by the First Lady, Mrs Imelda R. Marcos, to Food Minister Jesus Tanchanco.

The move, NFA said, is in line with government efforts to cut down on the use of expensive energy sources like liquefied petroleum gas and electricity by shifting to renewable and inexpensive fuel sources.

To promote the use of charcoal for household and gasifier purposes, the First Lady has endorsed the development of charcoal processing equipment and the production of appropriate tree species.

Charcoal beehive kiln prototypes have been constructed by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) in Curimao, Ilocos Norte, by the National Electrification Administration (NEA) in Bayambang, Pangasinan and Magalang, Pampanga and by the Farms System Development Corporation (FSDC) in Bohol and Barbaza, Antique.

Model kilns will also be constructed in Toledo, Dumanjug, and Bago City in Cebu and Pototan, Iloilo, using funds from the private sector.

The National Dendro Development Corp contracted recently the Sacramento-based Hodam and Associates for technical assistance in tapping renewable energy sources and charcoal production.

NFA said that trees expected to be harvested under the People's Forest program could be converted into charcoal and marketed nationwide, primarily in urban areas. (Fred Lobo)

CSO: 4200/554

CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR IMPOSES NEWS BLACKOUT

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 19 Feb 84 p 10

[Text] Central Bank Gov Jose B. Fernandez Jr has practically imposed a news blackout at the CB following a directive recently to CB personnel that the affairs of the bank are confidential in nature.

Fernandez warned CB employees that all CB officials and employees should exercise the highest level of security consciousness in the handling of information and materials concerning CB affairs.

He cited provisions of the Central Bank Act (RA 265) prohibiting CB personnel from revealing, except under order of the Court, information relating to the condition of position of any instruction subject to the CB examination or supervision.

He also noted criminal and administrative sanctions on those found relaying information in advance of its authorized release data.

CB officials and sources said they felt harassed by directive because even trade and monetary data monitored periodically by various CB offices could no longer be made available to the public.

The CB has lately failed to make public periodic reports on the economic and financial developments, particularly those on trade, balance of payments (BOP) performance, money supply and other monetary and financial indicators.

Fernandez, himself, has refused requests for press interviews because of his tight schedule in the ongoing talks with visiting International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials and other foreign creditors, according to his personal staff.

In the past, monetary and financial data were made public on a monthly or quarterly basis but these reports have not been available from the CB information office since October 1983.

CSO: 4200/555

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

OPPOSITION PARTY RIVALRY FOR RECOGNITION--Rivalry for recognition as the dominant opposition party is now shaping up before the Commission on Elections [Comelec]. The Nacionalista Party [NP], with former Senator Jose Roy as president, has asked the poll body to be declared or accredited as the dominant political party in all the country's regions. Other opposition parties have indicated they would oppose the NP position at the hearings scheduled on Tuesday. The same opposition parties, including the PDP-Laban [Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan], Unido [United Democratic Nationalist Organization], National Union for Liberation, Lapiang Manggagawa, the Philippine Labor Party, the Christian Democratic Party, and the Association of Opposition Parties have also opposed the petition of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan to be declared as the ruling political party. Opposition parties were required by the Comelec last Thursday to submit their position papers within one week, after which the KBL will reply within 4 days. The newly-formed (Pundac Cebuanon), the umbrella organization of five Cebu-based political parties, also filed a petition with the Comelec for declaration as dominant opposition party in Cebu Province and its four component cities, Danao, Lapu-Lapu, Mandaue, and Toledo, and Cebu City. The province is allotted six Batasan seats, and Cebu City two seats. [Excerpt] [HK190028 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 18 Feb 84]

INVESTMENTS DROP 1.4 BILLION PESOS--Total investments approved by the Board of Investments (BOI) last year dropped by P1.4 billion, industry sources disclosed yesterday. They attributed the slump on the apprehension of Filipino as well as foreign investors to invest in local business ventures because of the "uneasy" political climate in the country that followed the assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino Jr last August. Investments contributed by local and foreign investors in 620 projects last year totalled only P5.2 billion as against investments of P6.6 billion made in 1982. The bulk of the investments went mainly into the manufacturing sector (P2.8 billion), followed by the service sector (P807.9 million) and the mining sector (P999.6 million). Of the total investments, P1.07 billion were in projects in joint venture with foreigners while about P2.9 billion went to foreign owned projects. The rest were projects wholly-owned by Filipino investors. Top foreign investors last year were still the Americans with equity contributions of P2.03 billion or slightly over 68 percent of the total foreign investments approved by the BOI. [Ray Magallanes] [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Feb 84 p 8]

COCONUT EXPORTS UP--Foreign exchange earnings of non-traditional coconut-based products raised by 16 percent of the industry's revenues last year. Total coconut export earnings rose from P683.6 million in 1982 to \$740.5 million last year. Of this total, five percent or \$35.5 million was generated by fatty alcohol, methyl ester and other non-traditional coconut-based export items. According to the United Coconut Association of the Philippines (UCAP), the 59.4 percent hike in the receipts of non-traditional exports offset the negative impact of the decline in volume exports on the revenues of the industry. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Feb 84 p 8]

CSO: 4200/555

BRIEFS

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PERU--Western Samoa will establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level with Peru, a South American country. The only other South American country with which Western Samoa has diplomatic relations is Chile. In a press statement released recently, the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon Tofilau Eti Alesana, said: "The governments of the Republic of Peru and of Western Samoa, wanting to enhance the links of friendship and understanding between both countries, have decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level." The statement added that the establishment of such relations would be "in accordance with the principles of international law, and in particular those concerning the judicial equality of states, the mutual respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, the people's self-determination, non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states and respect for the obligation derived from international treaties." [Text] [Apia THE SAMOA TIMES in English 27 Jan 84 p 3]

CSO: 4200/524

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BRIEFS

EDITORIAL ON MILITARY DRAFT--Today's issue of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN carried an editorial: "Properly Implement Propaganda and Organizational Work in Connection with the Induction of Youths." The editorial reads in part: It is necessary to properly carry out the following tasks: registration, investigation, study, drawing up draftees' rosters, work assignment, and physical checkup, from the grassroots to the district level, with emphasis placed on the initial registration of citizens of draft age, permanent management and control of the existing strength, and political background screening, in order to ensure that no mistake or error is made in the census, screening, and implementation of policies. It is necessary to rely on the civil status documents available through the administrative system or through various mass organizations, services, production organizations, and people's teams to fully grasp the actual situation of the whole contingent as well as of each youth prior to and under the draft age. [From the Press Review] [Text] [OW281331 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 27 Feb 84]

PROTESTS AGAINST WEST BERLIN ABDUCTIONS--Hanoi VNA 24 February--A large number of stage artists in Ho Chi Minh City held a meeting on 22 February to protest against the assault on and abduction of members of a Vietnamese traditional theatre troupe on a performance tour of West Berlin. The participants adopted a resolution urging the West Berlin authorities to find out and punish the culprits. The resolution praises the bravery and patriotism of the artists who had escaped from the enemy. Phung Ha, a famed veteran woman artiste of the traditional theatre who had been awarded the title of People's Artiste by the government, and other celebrities, took the floor to voice their indignation. Over the last few days, art circles in Ho Chi Minh City have held several smaller meetings to demand that the West Berlin authorities meet the legitimate demands of the Vietnamese troupe. [Text] [OW241852 Hanoi VNA in English 1619 GMT 24 Feb 84]

CSO 4200/553

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

INDIAN PRESIDENT RECEIVES SRV HEALTH MINISTER

OW281618 Hanoi VNA in English 1524 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA 28 February--President Giani Zail Singh received in New Delhi yesterday Vietnamese Public Health Minister Dang Hoi Xuan, president of the Vietnam-India Friendship Association, who was in India for the first forum of Asian parliamentarians on population and development.

President Zail Singh reiterated his country's consistent foreign policy of supporting the national liberation movements and said that India regarded support for Vietnam as its obligation. India has been contributing to world peace and this has won Vietnam's support, he further said.

Zail Singh inquired after President Truong Chinh and other Vietnamese leaders and extended his invitation to the Vietnamese president to visit India.

Dang Hoi Xuan conveyed President Truong Chinh's regards to President Zail Singh and his invitation to the Indian leader to visit Vietnam at the most convenient date.

Also yesterday, Dang Hoi Xuan visited the Indian Centre for Studies on Indochina where he was warmly welcomed by T. N. Kaul, president, Mrs A. A. Ali, sponsor, and the centre's personnel. T. N. Kaul said that his institution was trying to make the Indian people understand better and better the three Indochinese people's heroic struggle against imperialist and expansionist domination.

On the same day, Dang Hoi Xuan called on the Lao and Kampuchean Embassies in the Indian capital.

Earlier, the Vietnamese health minister and his party had been received by Vice-President Mohammad Hidayatullah and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, called on Minister of Health and Family Planning B. Shankaranand, visited the All-India Peace and Solidarity Organization (AIPSO) and a number of medical establishments, met with health workers and M.P.'s and attended several symposiums and mass meetings.

Dang Hoi Xuan and his party left New Delhi today, successfully concluding his friendly visit to India.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

SYMPOSIUM WITH INDONESIANS VIEWS REGIONAL ISSUES

BK261420 Hong Kong AFP in English 1403 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] Hanoi, 26 February (AFP)--A joint Vietnamese-Indonesian symposium ended here today, after representatives concluded that Southeast Asia ought to be free of foreign influence, but acknowledged a split of opinion on Cambodia.

At a press conference, Harru Tjan Silalahi of the Indonesian Centre for Strategic and International Studies said that all foreign powers "potentially constituted a threat" for the region. The judgement was echoed by Pham Binh, for the Vietnamese Institute for International Relations, who stressed that Vietnam and Indonesia should launch a simultaneous struggle for independence.

Observers viewed Mr Pham's remarks as a reiteration of Hanoi's view that China is a threat to Southeast Asia. Jakarta does not have diplomatic relations with Beijing. But the parties acknowledged that they could not agree on the cause of the Cambodian crisis or on ways of solving it.

The symposium was the first of its kind between Vietnam and a member of the non-communist Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). It followed a visit here earlier this month by Indonesian Army Chief General Benni Murdani.

Mr Silalahi is to meet Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thack tomorrow. He leaves Vietnam on Thursday.

CSO: 4200/553

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VIETNAMESE ABROAD HELP FLOOD VICTIMS IN VIETNAM

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 Jan 84 p 4

[VNA News Release: "Help for People in Flooded Areas"]

[Text] When they learned that a number of provinces in our country had experienced continuous storms and flooding, many of our compatriots abroad and many Vietnamese cadres, personnel, and students working and studying in foreign countries positively contributed to helping the people in our country.

In the U.S., large numbers of people responded to a contribution campaign organized by the Association of Vietnamese in America. In New York alone contributions amounted to 1,810 dollars.

In Canada, the Association of Vietnamese in Canada and the Committee for Contributions to Construct the Homeland in the first phase of a campaign took in 7,162 Canadian dollars and two cases of medicine valued at about 1,000 dollars. The Association of Vietnamese in Canada is continuing to contribute powdered milk, flour, etc., to send to our country to help our people overcome the aftereffects of the storms and floods. In Pakistan, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Huong, Hoang Thi Hoa, Vu Thi Kieu, and Tran Thi Khi went to our embassy in Islamabad to express their sympathy and donate 11,000 Pakistani rupies to help the people in the areas affected by natural disasters.

Recently all cadres and personnel of our embassies abroad, and specialists and on-the-job trainees working and studying in Angola, England, Kampuchea, the Congo, Ethiopia, Guinea, Iraq, Laos, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Japan, Syria, the Federal Republic of Germany, Sweden, and Tanzania, and the permanent delegation of Vietnam at the United Nations, set aside a day's wage to help the people in the areas affected by storms and floods. The cadres of our embassy in Libya contributed 2 days' wages and the cadres of our embassy in Angola worked for one day and earned 466.07 dollars to help the people in our country. Two Vietnamese specialists in Sri Lanka sent 400 rupes (equal to 66.12 dollars) to our country to help the people affected by natural disasters.

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CSO: 4209/166

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

FAZEKAS MEETS VIETNAMESE PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG

AU292025 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1915 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Hanoi, AGERPRES 29 February 1984-- Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the Communist Party of Vietnam, prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, received Lukovik Fazekas, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, deputy prime minister, co-chairman of the Joint Romanian-Vietnamese Intergovernmental Commission of Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation, head of the Romanian delegation to the seventh session of the commission, the proceedings of which took place in Vietnam's capital city.

The interview occasioned an exchange of friendly greetings between RCP General Secretary and Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu and Le Duan, secretary general of the CC of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and Truong Chinh, president of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Aspects were approached during the talks related to the further expansion of the political and economic relations between the two countries and way and means were examined of amplifying and diversifying bilateral commercial exchanges and economic cooperation.

The interview was attended by Tran Phuong, co-chairman of the Joint Romanian-Vietnamese Commission of Economic Cooperation.

CSO: 4200/553

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

HO CHI MINH CITY VCP MEMBERSHIP--Hanoi VNA 27 February--In the past 8 years from 1976 to 1983, the Ho Chi Minh City Organization of the Communist Party of Vietnam admitted more than 13,000 new members. Of this figure, 7,000 were admitted after the Second Congress of the City Party Organization in October 1980. Most of the newly admitted party members are young people emerging from the production movement. The proportion of workers in the party membership has been increasing yearly, from 0.3 percent in 1976 to 18 percent in 1983. The City Party Organization has launched a new drive of admission named after Nguyen Van Cu, general secretary of the Indochinese Communist Party in the 1936-39 period. [Text] [OW271855 Hanoi VNA in English 1517 GMT 27 Feb 84]

CSO: 4200/553

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

LANG SON PROVINCE SAID TO MAKE ECONOMIC PROGRESS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Jan 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by La Thang, Secretary of the Lang Son VCP Committee: "Lang Son Exploits Potential of a Mountain-Region Province, Endeavors To Fulfill the Two Strategic Missions Well"]

[Text] For more than 4 years, since the defeat of the war of aggression waged by the Chinese reactionaries against our country's northern border provinces in February 1979, and since the Fifth Party Congress, the party organization, troops, and people of the ethnic groups in Lang Son have passed through a period of arduous struggle, full of challenges but also glorious victories.

Although they have had to accept defeat, the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists have not changed their aggressive plot. Every day and every hour they wage a many-sided war of destruction against our country by means of extremely insidious plots and acts. But during the past several years Lang Son's entire border has been continually defended and has been increasingly consolidated. Political security and social order and safety along the border and in the interior have been assured. The party organizations and governmental administrations in the areas near the border have been concerned with the material and spiritual lives of the people, and have organized forces which are prepared to retaliate against all provocative acts of the enemy. The people of the Nung, Tay, Vietnamese, Dao, and other ethnic groups, are united, have confidence in the wise leadership of the Party, and are fully dedicated to the socialist regime. They form a solid defense line for defending the borders of our homeland.

Although it has had to maintain constant vigilance and be prepared to cope with all acts of war by the enemy, Lang Son has rapidly restored the material-technical bases heavily damaged by the enemy in February 1979, and has promoted production, developed the economy, gradually stabilized the lives of the people, cadres, workers, civil servants, and armed forces in the province, and brought about new development.

In implementing the resolution of the Ninth Provincial Party Organization Congress, Lang Son has achieved encouraging successes, especially on the agricultural production front. Adding to the victory in production in 1982, in the 1983 winter-spring season the province attained a high output and an yield of nearly 30 quintals a hectare. On the average, the total grain output in

paddy equivalent increased by 26,404 tons between 1981 and 1983. Some 790 additional hectares of anise have been planted, and the sugarcane and soybean outputs have doubled. The development of agricultural production has created good conditions for the development of animal husbandry, especially in the family and cooperative sectors. The number of water buffaloes and cattle has been restored to nearly the 1978 level, the highest level ever. The number of hogs has increased since 1978.

A combined agricultural-forestry structure has begun to be formed. A number of localities, such as Yen Khoai, Na Pan, Van Thu, and Hai Yen have done a good job in that regard. There is greater awareness of the importance of special products trees in forestry. During the past 3 years the province has tended, improved, supplemented, and planted nearly 1,000 hectares of anise. A number of areas have developed the growing of tung trees and camellia trees.

Great efforts have been made in distribution and circulation to stabilize the living conditions of the people in rural and border areas, and those of cadres, workers, civil servants, and armed forces. During the past 3 years the state purchased 58.7 percent more grain than during the previous 3 years. The people in high-altitude areas and in the border areas have sufficient cooking oil and salt, and more cloth is supplied to them than to the areas in the interior.

Progress has been made in the work of building the party, the governmental administrations, and the mass organizations, and in the training of cadres, and the requirements of the political mission have gradually been met.

The above-mentioned victories were, above all, due to the correct line of the Party and the creative application of that line to the specific situation in the province; to the resolute struggle spirit of the people of the ethnic groups, the enlisted men, the cadres, and the party members in the province; and to the assistance of the central-level sectors and the other provinces.

However, our party organization has carried out a strict review and concluded that progress is still low. On the agricultural-forestry front, adequate attention has not yet been paid to developing such principal crops as tobacco, anise, and tung trees. The destruction of forests has not yet been ended and the assigning of forest land has been carried out slowly. There are still many negative manifestations in distribution and circulation, and goods control and market management are still lax. The sectors and echelons are still confused in applying the lines and policies of the Party to the specific situation of each locality and unit, and the collective mastership right of the working people and combined strength with which to more effectively exploit the local capabilities with regard to labor, land, and material-technical bases have not yet been brought into play.

The all-encompassing reason why the locality's ability to advance has been limited is that awareness of the complicated, decisive nature of the struggle between the two paths in the first phase of the period of transition, which is tied in with the struggle between our people and the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, in league with the U.S. imperialists, has not been fully realized. Thus there exist rightism and the relaxation of economic management and social management.

Determined to victoriously implement the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress and the resolutions of the VCP Central Committee this year and during the remaining years of the present five-year plan, the Lang Son party organization is developing to a high degree a self-reliant will, a revolutionary offensive spirit, the collective mastership right of the people, and the combined strength of the entire socialist regime, in order to attain the economic-social objectives set forth by the Party Congress and create a new transformation in economic construction and development, in all respects of social management, and in building a solid defense line to defend the border.

In 1984 the province will endeavor to attain grain output in paddy equivalent of 140,000 tons, an increase of 16.6 percent over 1983. In addition to grain production, it will comprehensively develop agriculture, and promote the growing of such key industrial crops as tobacco, anise, tung trees, and the other industrial crops. In 1984, the total tobacco output will be between 1,800 and 2,000 tons. Anise, tung trees, camellia, and cinnamon -- especially tung trees -- will be developed rapidly. During this year's winter-spring season 1,000 hectares will be planted, in combination with the creation and improvement of pastureland in order to develop the raising of large livestock.

To attain those objectives, we will step up district development in order to reorganize production in the sphere of the district and at the basic level. In 1984, each district will develop villages and cooperatives which attain yields of 8 to 10 tons of rice and 50 to 100 tons of tobacco per year, and which grow 200, 300, or 400 hectares of anise, tung trees, camellia, etc.; there will take form concentrated specialized cultivation areas; and there will gradually take form agricultural-forestry-industrial districts.

In addition to rapidly developing such key crops we will vigorously launch an "every cooperative grows export crops; every cooperative member family grows export crops; and everyone participates in the production of export goods" movement. Implementing a new policy regarding the stimulation of afforestation and the production of export goods, we will employ and utilize workers, rapidly increase the ratio of export goods, and exploit all local capabilities.

Industry and handicrafts in the province must first of all concentrate on meeting the needs for ordinary agricultural tools, improved agricultural tools, and tools to process agricultural and forestry products, and on producing export goods, consumer goods, and construction materials. It is necessary to consolidate and develop the road network, and effectively manage and use the transportation facilities, in order to do a good job of transporting agricultural and forestry products from distant, remote areas.

In addition to developing production, we are determined to restore order in distribution and circulation, and resolutely concentrate the control of goods and money in the hands of the state. We will consolidate, strengthen, and expand the state commercial network and marketing cooperatives, and maintain close ties with the state and collective production bases and with the workers, in order to take the initiative in drafting plans for the state purchasing of products, so that they will not fall into the hands of private merchants. We must resolutely manage commodity grain and the principal agricultural and

forestry products, such as anise flowers, anise oil, tobacco, etc., strengthen market management, and maintain the state monopoly in those principal products. We must ensure the supplying of the full amounts of rationed goods to cadres, workers, civil servants, the armed forces, and the laboring people in the province. With regard to the people and troops in the border areas and in remote, high-altitude areas, we must not allow a single family to lack salt, cooking oil, or the essential goods. At the same time, we must be actively concerned with more strongly developing the cultural, educational, public health, and physical education and sports work, building a new way of life, campaigning for the people to oppose superstition and abandon backward customs, and further improving the cultural lives of the ethnic minority people.

Economic construction will be combined with national defense and security in each area, ensuring the on-the-spot rear services, and organizing rational population centers to facilitate production and the organization of living conditions, while also facilitating combat readiness, the maintenance of security, and the solid defense of the border. The armed forces have plans to participate in economic construction in the localities in which they are stationed, first of all by contributing to protecting and planting forests, building water conservancy projects, building roads, etc.

The party organization, soldiers, and people of Lang Son, implementing the correct line and new policies of the Party and state, manifesting a self-reliant will and strongly developing the spirit of collective mastery of the ethnic minority people in the province, rationally using labor and land, fully utilizing all existing capabilities, and forming economic alliances with provinces all over the nation, will endeavor to overcome all difficulties and are determined to victoriously fulfill both strategic missions -- building and defending the homeland.

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CSO: 4209/166

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

SALES OF STATE-ISSUED BONDS IN FIRST 10 DAYS REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Jan 84 p 1

[Article: "First 10 Days of Sales of Fatherland Construction Bonds in 26 Provinces and Municipalities: Registration for and Purchase of Nearly 300 Million Dong and More Than 4,700 Tons of Paddy"]

[Text] In the first 10 days of the first phase (beginning on 19 December 1983) of the sales of fatherland construction bonds, many provinces and municipalities have obtained quite good results. According to incomplete reports, 26 provinces and municipalities have received pledges in the form of registration and purchased nearly 300 million dong and more than 4,700 tons of paddy. As of 28 December, Hanoi alone has put into the state budget nearly 36 million dong; Haiphong nearly 15 million dong. Hai Hung, Ha Nam Ninh, Quang Ninh, Vinh Phu, Hoang Lien Son, Thuan Hai, Quang Nam-Da Nang and Song Be Provinces and the Municipality of Haiphong have had considerable pledges and purchases. As of 28 December 1983, Nghe Tinh still had the highest pledges and purchases -- 57 million dong and 429 tons of paddy.

In every locality there were many cases of really voluntary purchases of government bonds based on personal means. Some localities relied on the actual situation in individual areas to propose flexible and practical measures free of coercion aimed at promoting their people's collective ownership spirit in connection with using cash and paddy to buy government bonds.

Thanh Hoa Province has had some good experience in encouraging its people to buy government bonds: its party committee echelons directly assumed leadership and its Fatherland Front, People's Committee and sectors closely coordinated their activities and had plans and appropriate measures to make practical steps toward doing their job. It paid attention to approaching in advance the families that had a lot of money and paddy and did not divide the quantities of bonds to be sold into average ones. As it was encouraging people to buy bonds, it always promoted the positive aspects and initiative of the mass organizations at the basic level and made sure that the people could

buy bonds on a voluntary basis and within their means. As a result, Thanh Hoa is the province that has had the most number of people having bought government bonds in large amounts -- 51 people having bought from 20,000 to 200,000 dong worth of bonds.

Although there had been relatively short periods of preparations for the sales, particularly in the case of the southern provinces and municipalities, thanks to the efforts of all echelons, sectors and mass organizations, both central and local, the movement to purchase fatherland construction bonds was widespread and has begun to grow in depth.

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CSO: 4209/164

AGRICULTURE

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT HAIPHONG'S GRAIN-MOBILIZING TASK

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by Le Nhat Quang of the Institute of Economics: "Some Thoughts About What Haiphong Did in 1983 To Mobilize Paddy"]

[Text] In the 1982-1983 fifth-month and spring season and 1983 tenth-month season, the quantities of paddy mobilized by the state as commodities in the Municipality of Haiphong reached the average of 22.4 quintals per hectare of cultivated land, which showed a sudden increase compared to the previous years. The figures of the same kind in 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982 were 5.4, 5.1, 7.2 and 14 quintals, respectively.

Those figures could have deeply impressed us had we known that because of Haiphong's geographic, economic and social characteristics, the number of people having nothing to do with agricultural production accounted for 44 percent* of its population and that the per capita average cultivated area here was among the lowest in the country -- .06 hectare for the agricultural population and .036 hectare for the general population of the municipality.

In connection with our seeking to understand the results of Haiphong's grain-mobilizing task in both the 1982-1983 fifth-month and spring and 1983 tenth-month seasons, this article tries to analyze the situation, looks for the reasons and offers some thoughts to the persons who are responsible for the socioeconomic management here.

Once it entered the circulation channel of any kind of market, the volume of paddy involved, generally speaking, becomes a commodity. This is a volume of paddy that goes beyond the direct consuming need of agricultural laborers and their families. Once the average grain consumption need of laborers,

* Figures in this article have been rounded off.

with the average annual population increase being taken into consideration and under the conditions of the cultivated areas for grain crops remaining the same or undergoing negligible changes, has been determined, the volume of commodity paddy now basically depends on a factor -- the average yield in a unit area of cultivated land. Therefore, in order to analyze the sudden increase of grain mobilized in the 1982-1983 fifth-month and spring and 1983 tenth-month seasons, we need to consider the figures within their relationship with the yields obtained through the years. The average yields per hectare in 1979 (prior to product contracting), 1980 (product contracts were signed in few places involving small areas), 1981 (product contracts began to cover 100 percent of cultivated areas), 1982 and 1983 were 42.2, 43.3, 51.3, 61.6 and 63.1 quintals, respectively. Crop yield was thus a changing factor that tended to grow right from the first season in which contracts had been signed. But in order to encourage farmers to enthusiastically practice intensive cultivation, the cooperatives signed product contracts and assigned crop yield on the basis of sao Bac Bo (.1 mau, or 360 square meters) to labor groups and laborers for periods ranging from 3 to 5 years. The state acted accordingly by failing to change the crop yield goals it had assigned to the cooperatives. However, it did not mean that other socioeconomic activities would remain unchanged in conjunction with the crop yield goals in the state plan. And the mistake started right there. We did not make a clear distinction between the two relationships and their difference. In the relationship with cooperative members, we accepted the same assigned goals to remain unchanged for a certain period. But the state plan had a broader socioeconomic relationship as it must rely on the actual crop yields and their changes to adjust all socioeconomic activities, particularly in the field of circulation and distribution.

Let us take as an example the figures showing the situation in Do Son, a district within the municipality, in connection with the rice crop yields obtained and the volume of grain mobilized in the fifth-month and spring season. Prior to the 1979-1980 fifth-month and spring season, the average crop yield goal set in its plan was 20 quintals per hectare of cultivated land. The average grain distribution plan for the cooperative members' sector called for about 7 quintals, for the cooperative sector about 6 quintals and the rest for the state sector. Generally speaking, that was the period in which agricultural production failed to attain the productivity goal. In the 1978-1979 fifth-month and spring season, the average yield obtained was 14.1 quintals per hectare of cultivated land. As the state was able to mobilize an average of 2.5 quintals per hectare of cultivated land, the needs of cooperative members and in the cooperative sector amounted to 13 quintals. In order for the state to be able to get 2.5 quintals per hectare of cultivated land it had to dip into the "necessary" volume of paddy of the cooperative members' and collective sector. Farmers having not enough to eat, collectives lacking the sources of capital to expand production and the volume of grain mobilized by the state being not enough to cover the nonagricultural sector -- all of this increased the grain pressure on the

social economy and left in our memory a period full of worries about the standard of living.

In the 1980 fifth-month and spring season (product contracting had not been adopted yet), the yield obtained was 16.1 quintals per hectare of cultivated land. At that time although the state could have mobilized up to 3 quintals per hectare, it was able to mobilize only 2.2 quintals. Small quantities of paddy began to slip off along the circulation channels outside of the plan. In the 1981 fifth-month and spring season, when product contracting began being adopted, the important goals of rice growing in the cooperatives in the district, such as crop yield, volume of production, sharing and distribution, were set in a definite manner, with the yield level of 20 quintals being taken as the standard one. Although 20 quintals per hectare of cultivated land was higher than the actual yield levels that the district had reached in the last several years, the fact that the difference was not that great made farmers ready and willing to accept it and to try to reach. In that year, with the new contracting system being a driving force, the average yield per hectare of cultivated land obtained in the fifth-month and spring season was 23.3 quintals, or 7.2 quintals higher than the preceding year and 3.3 quintals above the assigned goal; as grain was considered a product that must be placed under centralized management by the state, in that 1981 fifth-month and spring season, we could have used every means and the commodities-commodities and commodities-cash relationships and mobilized more than 10 quintals per hectare of cultivated land on the basis of the actual yield, or at least 7 quintals on the basis of the yield set in the plan. But perhaps at that point in time, as we were too busy with discussions of such topics as product contracting, classification, land adjustment, assigned goals, etc., we failed to recognize in time a necessary rational relationship: the level of grain mobilizing had to vary with the yield. We thus -- we might say -- had forgotten to mobilize grain with both the shares included in the plan and outside of the plan. Although the yield, as we pointed out earlier, exceeded the average yield by 7.2 quintals, the state still mobilized grain at the old level of 2.2 quintals per hectare of cultivated land. In 1982, the average yield in the fifth-month and spring season was 28.6 quintals. The volume of grain mobilized was increased to an average of 6 quintals; however, it was still lower than what could have been mobilized by nearly 10 quintals per hectare of cultivated land. These figures showed that since 1981 the crop-growing laborers in Do Son have basically crossed that "grain threshold" as they began to produce commodity paddy. But since the volume of grain mobilized by the state was too small, an ever increasing quantity of paddy did not go into the state-managed circulation channels but was instead stored in the baskets of the families of agricultural cooperative members. When every family had a basket full, or almost full, of paddy, the countryside as always would encounter a thirst for goods and money, such as mineral fertilizers of various kinds, insecticide, new seeds, building materials, means of transportation, ready-made clothes, housewares, etc., which

were the most essential items necessary for further raising the ability to practice intensive cultivation and to improve the material and spiritual standard of living.

Having slipped off from the grain-mobilizing plan, the beyond-the-contracts paddy later entered the market that was beyond the scope of the state plan to control, disturbed grain prices and caused accompanying disturbances in the management of other commodities. A paradoxical but real phenomenon that existed in Do Son in early 1983 was the fact that while almost all of the 25,000 farmer households had baskets of beyond-the-contracts paddy, the state stores were short of rice they were supposed to have to sell to workers and civil servants -- the shortage was so serious that for many months the state had to give cash to workers and civil servants who, with additional money from their wages, had to buy the rice that had come from farmers' personal baskets.

The VCP and People's Committees of the municipality recognized the irrational situation that existed between the new contracting mechanism, labor investment, ever changing productivity, new income-sharing formula and tens of thousands of family-owned paddy storehouses on the one hand and the ineffective plan for grain management on the other. Consequently, after the 1982-1983 fifth-month and spring season, the municipality as a whole began to adopt a new more rational grain-mobilizing plan that would be closer to the real rice crop yields obtained in the fields.*

Under the leadership of the municipality, in the 1982-1983 fifth-month and spring season alone, Do Son District was able to mobilize an average of 13 quintals per hectare of cultivated land, or 5-6 times higher than the quantities mobilized in 1979, 1980 and 1982.

* The real yields here were calculated by the statistical harvesting method. However, we wonder whether, under present conditions and with present means of achieving statistical harvesting, there were any errors in the figures and to what degree these errors might be.

According to the statistical harvesting method, the average yield per hectare of cultivated land in the 1982-1983 fifth-month and spring season in Do Son was 32.07 quintals. But this reporter has talked to 20 families in Doan Xa and Minh Tan Cooperatives, which were the first ones in Do Son District having adopted the new contracting procedure using the actually obtained yields. Fourteen of these families let us know that the yield that had been assigned to them was 75 kilograms per sao Bac Bo, i.e., 20.4 quintals per hectare of cultivated land, but that they obtained 38.5 quintals instead; the 6 remaining families obtained from 43 to 54 quintals per hectare of cultivated land.

Following that phase of grain mobilization, rice prices in the market suddenly stopped rising and then gradually decreased, from 15 to 12 dong per kilogram. The grain stores were able to supply rice in the right quantities and for every period, every month. As a result, the nonagricultural production sector saw the disappearance of a considerable burden in the standard of living.

Generally speaking, the grain-mobilizing situation in Do Son in 1983 also correctly reflected that in the municipality as a whole. The average volume of grain mobilized per hectare of cultivated land in the municipality as a whole in 1983 (including the 1982-1983 fifth-month and spring season and the 1983 tenth-month season) increased by 4.2, 4.4, 3.1 and 1.5 times compared to that in 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982, respectively. If we considered only the volumes of paddy purchased by the municipality in 1983 by the commodities-commodities and commodities-cash formula, those increases were 8.8, 6.3, 7.8 and 1.6 times compared to 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982, respectively. If we placed those sudden-increase figures next to the ones that showed the increases of rice crop yields through the past years (the average yield per hectare of cultivated land in 1983 was only 1.5, 1.4, 1.2 and 1.02 times higher than that in 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982, respectively), many people would naturally worry. However, every worry would be resolved by means of two calculations and one principle. In the first calculation, the level of mobilization was placed within the relationship with the average yield level. These two major quantities generally would move in the same direction.

But this movement would give us only a relative index. It would be complemented and become an absolute quantity in the second calculation covering the relationships among crop yield, volume of production, the share to be consumed directly by farmers and the share to be left for the collective economy.

Haiphong set the level of grain to be mobilized in 1983 on the basis of the results of the two above-mentioned calculations along with the consumption by an agricultural population being in average 20 kilograms of paddy per month (not including other kinds of subsidiary food and grain) and the share to be left for the collective economy in accordance with the general regulations.

After a balance was maintained in connection with the need for grain for consumption and for expanded reproduction in the countryside, the remaining paddy should be attracted into the state market sector as much as possible. That was the principle the municipality had suggested for the grain-mobilizing task in 1983, a principle that originated from the common interests of society and at the same time for the direct interests of farmers. As the state considered paddy and rice, from the overall social standpoint, as necessary products, it not only refused to seek accumulation of such products but also allowed appropriate compensation for losses, if necessary. Since the level of grain

mobilization in 1983 was tens of times higher than that in the previous years, to a large extent it only reflected the fact that in a certain period we had departed from the above-mentioned principle.

As to the mode of action, the reason why Haiphong obtained great results from its grain-mobilizing task was that it had properly combined the educational, economic and administrative measures of proselyting. In order to be able to achieve this combination almost all echelons and sectors were taking part within the scope of their functions. As to the economic measures, the municipality showed its special concern about the farmers' interests by strengthening its investment in intensive cultivation, granting price differentials and trying to increase the quantities and varieties of goods to be exchanged to suit the taste in the countryside. This concern was also reflected in setting the levels of grain mobilization not on the basis of an average but rather on the basis of a plan for maintaining a balance of all aspects among the farmer households, particularly through democratic discussions in party chapters and among leaders of production units. The administrative measures were also considered necessary; however, they were taken only as the last resort. The municipality carried out administrative control measures in the cases of only 22 households, a totally negligible number out of a total of some tens of thousands of farmer households.

By ceaselessly studying the ways to gradually improve the new contracting mechanism, strengthening its investment in intensive cultivation and firmly mobilizing all of the excess grain in accordance with the principle of the state extending unified management over the most essential commodity in life, Haiphong in 1983 was able to supply 70 percent of the grain needed by its non-agricultural production population.

For a municipality that has such natural geographic and socioeconomic characteristics as Haiphong has, this achievement can be considered a miracle, and a real miracle will be affirmed in 1985, when Haiphong will be able to balance its grain needs if the resolution of the Third Municipal Party Organization Executive Committee (8th term) Conference on "moving Haiphong's agriculture one more step toward the socialist large-scale production in the 80's" becomes effective. Then Haiphong will have a new socioeconomic image, an image that has never before existed in its history. This image will include the harmoniously interacting relationships between the two basic socioeconomic components -- the countryside-agriculture-farmers and the municipality-industry-workers components.

AGRICULTURE

PROVINCE REVIEWS 1983 ACTIVITIES, SETS 1984-85 GOALS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Jan 84 p 1

[Article: "Quang Nam-Da Nang Provincial VCP Committee Proposes 1984-85 Program of Action: To Ensure Per Capita Grain Production of 340-360 Kilograms and Industrial, Light Industrial and Handicraft Production of 550-560 Million Dong "]

[Text] The Quang Nam-Da Nang Provincial VCP Committee recently met to seek a full understanding of the resolution of the 5th Plenum of the VCP Central Committee, to review the 1983 activities of the provincial party organization and to discuss the direction of its 1984 task and the goals of its struggle through 1985.

In 1983, in spite of many great difficulties, the party organization and people of the province scored total victories, created a new material and technical base and new confidence and obtained additional experience while continuing to move forward. At the same time, the committee also mentioned the weaknesses and unachieved work: in agriculture, the development of cooperatives had not been steady; in industry, it had failed to make in-depth calculations of productivity, effectiveness and quality. Market management and commercial transformation remained weak while price management was still neglected. Lower goals had been reached in making labor adjustment and redistribution and sending people to new economic zones. There was much confusion in the division of managerial levels, etc. as leadership had not been really effective in the construction of the highlands, municipalities and sandy-soil zones. As far as the state plan was concerned, almost all of the assigned goals in 1983 had been fulfilled and overfulfilled, but as far as the resolution of the 13th Provincial Party Organization Congress was concerned, many goals failed to be attained.

On the basis of a serious evaluation of both the successes and weaknesses and unachieved work in the past year, an analysis of the socioeconomic situation in the 3-year period of 1981-1983 and the needs in daily life of the people in

the province and in society as a whole, the Provincial Party Organization Executive Committee proposed a revolutionary program of action for the 2 years of 1984-1985. The major goals in such a program are as follows: 535,000 tons of grain in 1984 and 560,000 tons in 1985, with per capita average production of 340-360 kilograms; value of industrial, light industrial and handicraft production to reach 550-560 million dong, with average annual development rate of 18 percent and investment in capital construction of 207 million dong; value of export to reach 30 million dollars, rubles, etc. In the field of party construction, the program calls for building many more strong district, municipal and city party organizations and reaching 50 percent the number of strong basic-level organizations, with no more organizations remaining in the weak and poor class.

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GIA LAI-KONTUM IMPROVES DRY RICE CULTIVATION METHODS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Jan 84 p 2

[Article by Quang Hoan: "Gia Lai-Kon Tum Intensively Cultivates Dry Rice"]

[Text] Because of the natural conditions, and because it is appropriate to their cultivation level, Gia Lai-Kon Tum and many other areas in the Central Highlands and the northern mountain region have the custom of growing dry rice. The ethnic minority people in Gia Lai-Kon Tum have selected and domesticated dry rice varieties, as well as corn and manioc varieties, over many generations. Dry rice is still the principal, most important grain crop in the crop structure of the ethnic minority peoples. Before the liberation, nearly the entire rice area in Gia Lai-Kon Tum was devoted to dry rice. Since 1976 the two-crop wet rice area has increased rather rapidly, but in no year has it exceeded one-third of the annual rice area. The remaining two-thirds still grow dry rice. On the average, every year Gia Lai-Kon Tum plants about 55,000 hectares of dry rice, or at most 65,000 hectares. Dry rice is grown not only by the ethnic minority people, but is also grown rather widely by Vietnamese. During the next several years the growing of dry rice must be reconsidered and steps must be taken to achieve effective intensive cultivation.

Forests and Dry Rice Land

Depending on the slope of the rice land, dry rice has long been divided into two types: upland (slash-burn) rice land and lowland dry rice land. Upland rice is grown on high-altitude, steeply sloping land. Upland fields are created by destroying forests and burning off slash-burn fields. Because upland fields are steeply sloping, they are seriously eroded. Therefore, after upland fields are burned off they can only be cultivated for a maximum of three seasons, after which it is necessary to find another place. In Gia Lai-Kon Tum, because there is much land and few people, an upland field is used only one season, after which new fields are burned off. After a cycle of 15 to 20 years the old upland fields are used once again. Lowland dry rice is grown on relatively low-altitude, relatively level land. Therefore, such land is subject to little erosion and can be cultivated for longer periods of time. In many areas of A Dun Pa and Krong Pa a lowland dry rice field can be used continuously for 10 to 15 seasons. The task of preparing land for the sowing of dry rice, which is completed at the end of the dry season in the Central Highlands, includes cutting down trees, letting them dry out, then burning off the fields, cleaning up, and digging up the slash-burn fields. As for lowland

dry rice, it is only necessary to spade the soil and wait for rain. When the first rain of the season arrives and the soil is sufficiently moist, the workers need only punch holes and put in seeds. In the period between sowing and harvesting it is only necessary to weed two or three times. Rain serves as the irrigation water and fertilizer is not used. Recently, in some areas the ethnic minority people have begun to use insignificant amounts of fertilizer on lowland dry rice.

Dry rice, principally upland slash-burn rice, is continuing to make inroads on forest land in Gia Lai-Kon Tum. It is estimated that every year 20,000 to 30,000 hectares of forest land are destroyed to make slash-burn fields. During this year's dry season 17,000 hectares of forests were destroyed, not counting the forest area burned to make slash-burn fields. Most of the forest land destroyed was in old forests, for in such forests the soil is good and there are few weeds. During the past several years, because of awareness of the threat posed to forests by slash-burn rice, Gia Lai-Kon Tum has adopted the policy of restricting the destruction of forests to make slash-burn fields. However, because of a lack of resolute measures and of inadequate awareness on the part of the people and cadres, large forest areas are still destroyed.

Investment Must Be Made in Intensive Cultivation

In the process of domesticating and cultivating dry rice, each ethnic group and area in Gia Lai-Kon Tum grows a different variety of rice. One can list some frequently encountered dry rice varieties: "goose" glutinous rice, white glutinous rice, saffron glutinous rice, dark glutinous rice, "xa con" glutinous rice, nonglutinous rice such as dwarf "loc" rice, Buon Ma Thuot "loc" rice, Ko, red, "loc" rice, Po lang, Patoroong, Palu, Notang, Kompopan, etc. In general, those dry rice varieties have many valuable characteristics: they are drought resistant, have good resistance to insects and diseases, adapt to natural conditions, and provide stable yields. However, nearly all of the dry rice varieties provide low yields. Places with good soil can, in years in which weather conditions are favorable, attain yields of 20 to 22 quintals per hectare. In places with poor soil and unfavorable weather, yields are only 8 to 10 quintals per hectare. During the past several years the average dry rice yield has been only about 10 to 12 quintals per hectare.

Gia Lai-Kon Tum has decided that in future years about 50,000 to 54,000 hectares of dry rice should be grown every year. Most of the rice grown will be lowland dry rice and the upland, slash-burn area will be kept to the minimum. The average dry rice yield will be increased to 15 quintals per hectare. That is a correct policy. But the guidance measures are not yet specific. Investment has not been made in intensive cultivation on dry rice land. The time has come for the agricultural research organs to determine the best dry rice variety structure for each ecological area and have technical procedures for the intensive cultivation of rice and a seasonal schedule. At the same time, there must be investment in fertilizer, insecticides, and pesticides in the dry rice areas, as in the wet rice areas, as in the wet rice areas.

During the past 2 years, Play Cu city has carried out research and concluded that the Kon Tum rice variety provides good yields. Therefore, the entire dry rice area of Play Cu City was planted in that variety, which produced an

average yield of 15 quintals per hectare. In the Kon Tum "loc" rice variety the best? In order to increase the dry rice yield to 15 quintals all over the province, Gia Lai-Kon Tum must promptly take positive steps to intensively cultivate dry rice on the lowland dry rice area, and restrict, and eventually eliminate, the destruction of forests to make slash-burn fields. If it carries out that take well, Gia Lai-Kon Tum will rapidly increase its grain output and protect its forests.

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AGRICULTURE

SRV AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

OW240709 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] According to data released by the General Statistics Department, by 15 February, 65.7 percent of the planned area for the winter-spring rice crop had been transplanted countrywide, with 51.4 percent in the north, and 89.2 percent in the south [all figures as heard].

In the north, owing to warmer weather, last week the transplanting rate was a little faster: a daily average of 14,000 hectares. The zone four provinces completed transplanting in 72.3 percent of the plan norm, with Binh Tri Thien, a province with a fast transplanting pace, attaining 91 percent. The Red River Delta Provinces completed transplantation in only 35 percent. However, Haiphong Municipality, with the fastest transplanting pace, had 92 percent of the planned area transplanted. The midland provinces completed transplanting in 57 percent, and the mountain provinces--including Bac Thai Province, which attained 72.4 percent--58 percent.

Because rice seedlings perished on some 20,000 hectares, rice seedling shortages are being experienced in many localities. Thai Binh Province still has no rice seedlings for transplanting in 14,000 hectares; Binh Tri Thien Province a little over 3,700 hectares; Ha Nam Ninh Province 3,000 hectares; and Ha Tuyen Province nearly 1,000 hectares. Rice seedlings in most of the transplanted areas are beginning to grow well.

The central coastal provinces and the Cuu Long Delta provinces though, already completing the cultivation of the winter-spring rice, fulfilled only 92 percent of the plan norm. Such eastern [Nam Bo] provinces as Tay Ninh, Dong Nai and Ho Chi Minh City have fulfilled only 51 percent of the plan norm and are continuing their transplanting work to ensure that their plan norms are met.

Regarding vegetable, secondary, and industrial crops, so far, only 453,000 hectares have been cultivated countrywide--or 95 percent of the cultivated acreage in the corresponding period last year--with the secondary crop acreage fulfilling 20.6 percent of the plan norm.

Along with rapidly and neatly harvesting garlic and potato crops and preparing soil for the spring rice crop, the mountain and midland provinces are harvesting their cassava crops and continuing to plant new ones--With Binh Tri Thien already having completed planting on more than 4,3000 hectares and Ha Tuyen 100 [figure as heard] hectares.

The Agriculture Ministry reminds localities to secure enough corn and cassava seeds for planting on all the planned acreage to make up for the decreased acreage of the secondary winter crop.

As the weather will become increasingly warm in the next 10 days, the northern provinces should devote their work forces to rapidly cultivating the spring rice crop; the southern provinces should focus their efforts on tending the rice and controlling rice pests.

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AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

DONG THAP AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION--To date, Dong Thap Province has allocated nearly 26,300 hectares of land to over 27,000 landless or land-deficient peasant families. The province has also set up nearly 1,370 production collectives, absorbing over 100,000 peasant families and collectivizing nearly 64,600 hectares of cultivated land. [Summary] [BK211239 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Feb 84]

DONG THAP GRAIN COLLECTION--To date, Dong Thap Province has completed the 10th-month rice harvest. However, grain collection in the province remains slow. By mid-February, Dong Thap was able to collect only more than 16,000 metric tons, which represent one-third of the target set for the 10th-month crop season. [Summary] [BK211239 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 18 Feb 84]

MILITARY RECRUITMENT--Since early February, thousands of youths in Ho Chi Minh City have prepared themselves for military induction in the first phase on 5 March. Thanks to the cooperation of the city youth union, many precincts and districts have been able to complete the registration of youths for military service right from the first days of the year. [Summary] [BK211239 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 18 Feb 84]

CSO: 4209/170

LABOR

BRIEFS

HO CHI MINH CITY WORKERS--Ho Chi Minh City will solve job problems for 150,000 laborers during 1984-85. It will send 70,000-80,000 persons to various industrial crops areas to plant rubber, coffee, and jute. The city is preparing to send the first batch of 15,000 persons to various state rubber plantations in Dac Lac and Song Be Provinces and to the specialized jute area in Long An Province. [Summary] [BK260932 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 Feb 84]

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